Education+

24-page pull-out packed with higher education appointments



Mr. Punch:

WEATHER: Mainly sunny

Off with his head!

Tories switch millions to schools

an Burrell

The Government is considering providing an emergency package for schools by cutting up to £200m from money for training the young un-

The national council in charge of youth training for more than 277,000 unemployed teenagers said last night that it had "serious concerns" that swingeing cuts were to be announced in next week's

Budget. Gillian Shepherd, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, is under immense pressure to produce more resources for schools following criticisms of poor test reis, growing class numbers and lack discipline in schools such as The Ridines, near Halifax.

By switching money within the budget of Mrs Shephard's department the Government can avoid inter-departmental quarrels and

Emergency plan to cope with education crisis

thus make the cuts less conspicu-Chris Humphreys, chief executive of the national council which oversees the 81 Training and Enterprise Councils in England and Wales, said those in charge of youth training were extremely worried.

There are very strong concerns that the schools system in England is not attracting the resources it needs and that young people in training are the ones who will be

John Walsh's

Diary

page 21

made to pay," he said.
John Howell, chief executive of the south London TEC (Solotec) and the former managing director of Singer, said the cuts would alarm the private sector, where the TECs enjoy the support of organisations such as ICI, British Steel and Woolwich Building Society.

"My understanding is that there are going to be cuts and they are going to be sizeable," he said. "What we are talking about here is the destruction of the work-based route back into employment - the route of training alongside emloyers. We have moved away from the old days of the YOP scheme which involved community work and we are giving people work-based qualifications relevant to the world

of work." Mr Howell said that 1,200 of the 6,000 trainees at Solotec could be

There are fears that up to 27 per cent of the £180m youth training budget, which gives 50,000 training places, could be at risk.

The places under threat are those described as "non-guaranteed",

which are for trainees over 18. Unemployed 16- and 17-year-olds who are not in education are guaranteed

Representatives of the TECs have been in lengthy talks with Mrs Shephard and James Paice, the education minister, over changes in the way the department's budget is

There have been criticisms of TECs over their drop-out rates and low qualification achievements.

The TECs, which are jointly funded by private business, argue that they are turning the corner and that their achievements are being recognised by employers and young

The number of people enrolling for the courses has been steadily increasing since 1993-94 and the

numbers achieving qualifications of NVQ level two or above has increased from 37 per cent to 82 per

cent since 1991. Godfrey Blakeley, spokesman for the TEC National Council, said: "Word has finally got around that youth training is a realistic way into a job. After five or six years of painful improvement this thing is coming

"It is this approach which is the reason for Germany's high level of skills in industry. Now, in typical British fashion, we are planning to diminish it just as it is bedding

In 1989, almost two-thirds of participants left their course early for no good reason, but the dropout figure has been reduced to just over a third, which is similar to the

rate in other education programmes for 16- 18-year-olds. Mrs Shephard has been an en-

thusiastic supporter of vocational qualifications and acknowledged recently that more money would be needed if they are to be successful. The education budget is under im-mense strain, with £700m needed to pay for the nursery voucher scheme for all four-year-olds from April. Millions more is being allocated for extra security in schools following the outery after the death of the London headmaster Philip

The youth training budget for England alone now stands at £669m a year. There are 600,000 under-25s without a job and unemployment for 16- 19-year-olds is 15 per cent,

compared to 8 per cent for all ages. The Department for Education and Employment would not discuss its plans in advance of the Budget.

Worst school of all?, page 4

Glenda Cooper

The Romans employed them to

save the city from marauding Gauls and now British

Christmas tree growers are turning to cackling geese to combat tree-rustlers.

The British Christmas Tree

Growers Association warned

yesterday that thieves are like-

ly to take advantage of next

week's full moon to execute

Large-scale pilfering could push small growers into bankruptcy.

"A full moon makes it much

easier for thieves. If it's dark it's

obviously more difficult to pick

up the trees," said Tony

Richardson, the association's

secretary. "There isn't a dark

night until 10 December after

"Losses are very important to

which we'll be fairly safe."



Gilfian Shephard: Under pressure

or so pinched can be pushed to

the edge."

One of the best means of pro-

tection is geese. Geoffrey Field of East Sussex, who has been

growing Christmas trees for more than 20 years, employs

eight geese to watch his two

acres of trees. "They are a

great deterrent," said Mr Field.

"A lot of people are terrified of geese, particularly if they have

been chased by one as a child. In Wales, Dyfed-Powys police

have urged residents to be on

the look out for thieves. Some

2.000 farmers in a network of

"Farm Watch" schemes are be-

ing asked to report suspicious

vehicles. "We need to take

more care than usual," added Mr Richardson, a retired gen-

eral. "The problem with Christ-

mas trees is when they have

Goosestep guard

Christmas forest

keeps watch in

Rise in abortion after pill scare

Health ministers are today accused of contraceptive Pill as new government figures suggest that last year's scare lead

A new analysis of the Pill scare also highlights its international impact and long-term effects, and concludes that the Government's advice to women to change from certain brands of the Pill was "unnecessarily alarmist and out of step with the assessment of medical information in other countries".

The analysis coincides with publication today of the abortion statistics for the first quarter of 1996, the period most likely to be affected by the events of October 1995. The figures are expected to show a significant increase in abortions of 6 to 7 per cent although some doctors are predicting it could be higher. Dr Frank Furedi, head of develop-

ment studies at Kent University, and Anne Furedi, director of the Birth Control Trust (a charity promoting re-productive health and family planning), who carried out the analysis, say that a "pill panie" was waiting to happen in the UK. This followed newspaper and television reports in 1994 and 1995 of deaths linked to one particular brand of the so-called "third generation" combined oral contraceptive Pills.

When preliminary data from three unpublished studies became available suggesting that women taking third-gen-eration Pills - those containing the synthetic hormones gestodene or desogestrel - were twice as likely to suffer blood clots as women on older, cheaper brands, the Government took action. Around 1.5 million women taking seven of the most popular brands

were advised to change.

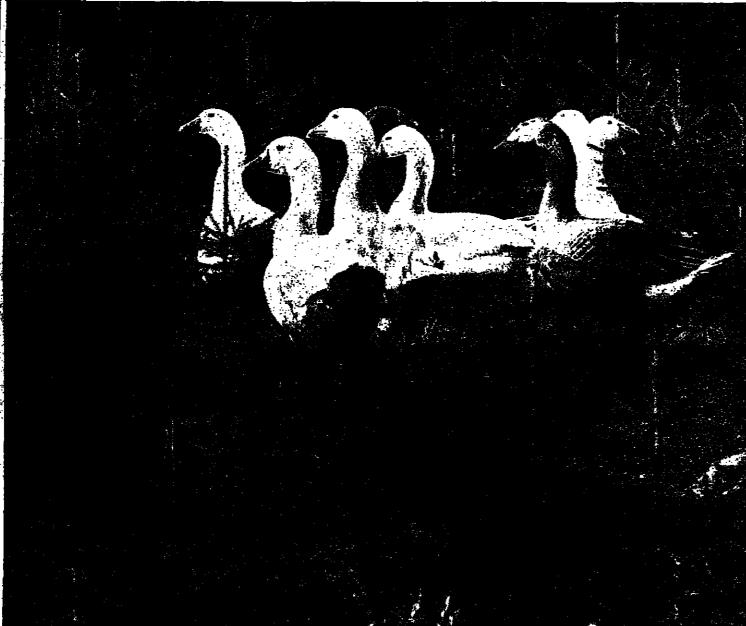
This decision was driven largely by "the threat of media criticism and pos-sible subsequent litigation," the report says, rather than concern for public health or any significant risk to women. It claims that Department of Health of-ficials "overreacted and panicked" in putting out the Pill alert.

"Our research shows that this was a needless panic. Only in Britain and Germany, and later in Norway, did medical authorities conclude that women using third-generation combined pills should he advised to change to other brands," Ms Furedi said yesterday.

The Furedi report says that unlike other transitory health scares, the 1995 Pill scare will reinforce the public's view that oral-contraception poses risks that outweigh its considerable advantages. In addition, the scare has meant that doctors are reluctant to prescribe combined oral contraception Pills, and "has reinforced a climate where legal action is more like by to be launched" by patients. The International Impact of a Pill Pan-ic in the UK is available from the Birth

Control Trust, 16 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7RD.





On patrol: Geese watching over Christmas trees at Geoff Field's farm in the Cheviots, Northumberland

So Crash is depraved? You may be disappointed

I can, if I so desire, go and see films fea-turing lots of sex, and films full of excit-ingly-shot car crashes. I cannot though, go and see a film which features both.

David Cronenberg's film Crash, based on J.G. Ballard's novel, has been ruled out-of-bounds for showing in West End cinemas. The decision made yesterday by Westminster City Council to impose an interim ban means that the film must now be considered by the British Board of Film classification later this year.

If I was to prepared to risk my life in the Channel tunnel, I could of course mp over to Paris and watch it. If the hysterical fears about Crash were well-founded, one would have thought that Paris is by now a place full of smouldering wrecked cars peopled with perverted Parisians copulating amongst the debris. This does not, however, appear to be the

Why? Perhaps because French citizens are less easily influenced than we are. Perhaps because they don't believe everything they see. Perhaps because they understand the difference between reality and fantasy. Perhaps because this film is meant to arouse the imagination.

rather than the libido. In Britain however, Crash has aroused indignation and incomprehension. Despite pleas on its behalf from prominent writers and artists from Salmon Rushdie to Mike Leigh, a dreadful literalism prevails. Without all this fuss ,whipped up mostly by those who haven't seen the film.



by Suzanne Moore

enberg's movie would probably have been big box office any way. Those of us who are Cronenberg fans have hever expected his films to be an easy or particularly comfortable ride. We sat coss legged through Dead Ringers which featured twin gynaecologists fashionin surgical instruments for "mutant women". A feel-good movie is the last

thing we would ever expect of this man. The subject of Ballard's novel, which he one cerily described as a kind of interior intobiography, is an exploration of sex and violence in entertainment culture aid, as he explains, "the probably simister effects they are having on the pub-

lie imalination". The lovel, written more than twenty years ato, was "a cautionary tale," a prophe c vision of what happens when violences croticised, when ordinary people become obsessed with celebrity life and celebrity death. Crash takes our obsession with sex and cars to its logical and yes, extreme, conclusion. Ballard who realised he could write science fiction set in the English suburbs is himself concerned about the level of violence in cinema pointing out that Reservoir Dogs is far more likely to incite copycat behav-

iour than anything in Crash.

The Westminster councillors have bizarrely insisted that one of the lines that should be cut from the film is "Car crashes are fertilising not destructive". There, you have just read it, but you are not presently permitted to see an actor saymg it, presumably on the grounds that you might be persuaded this was true. Crash will offend, it will bore and it

will fail, in some eyes, because after all the hype, it is not a film designed to titillate. Cronenberg, speaking the other day, told us that one of the most common complaints about the film was that the car crashes were not realistic enough. So used are we apparently to seeing them on screen in slow-motion, that his crashes were not exciting enough.

That is a definition of depravity if ever there was one and in essence is what the film is actually attempting to bring to the surface. Yet to ban this film one must assume it depraves and corrupts, that it may cause imitative behaviour. This is ludicrous and just because the censors cannot distinguish between reality and fiction how dare they assume we can't ei-

Councillors ban film, Page 9

Photograph: Glynn Griffiths QUICKLY

Tunnel stays shut The Channel Tunnel will be closed at least until Monday, amid fears that the northbound tunnel was badly damaged by the fire on Monday.

Yeltsin comeback The Russian President Boris Yelsin took a crucial step in his long-awaited comeback by appearing on television. He

before his bypass. Page 14 CONTENTS

looked thinner and older than

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the small grower," he added. been pinched it is jolly difficult "Those who only have two or to identify them as yours." More news for geese, page 5 three thousand trees and get 200

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K2|7

significant shorts

Supermarket Labour gets knifeman shot set for early dead by police by-election

A man was shot dead in a supermarket by police marksmen yesterday after he attacked the store manager

The 40-year old-man is believed to have stabbed the manager in the back and possibly in the stomach before being killed at the Co-candidate, over allegations, op mini-market in Ward End, which he denied, that he had Birmingham. He attacked the been violent to women. manager for "no apparent

reason", said police. The man is reported to have held a knife to the manager's throat and to have handcuffed him before stabbing him. There was a suggestion last night that the incident may have been linked to a dispute, possibly between the knifeman, who

will

house nearby. Witnesses told of hearing four or five shots being fired.

Judge ups libel award to 1p

A High Court jury's award of "zero" damages to former Irish premier Albert Reynolds against The Sunday Times was upped to 1p today.

The increase came after Mr Justice French ruled that Mr Reynolds was entitled to nominal damages, given the jury's verdict yesterday. The jurors decided, by a majority of 10-1, that the allegation complained of by Mr Reynolds was not in substance true" - but then went on to make the "zero" award. The judge's ruling may have a bearing on who

should pay costs, unofficially estimated at more than £1m. Mr Revnolds sued over a November 1994 story, headed some 200 institutions are Goodbye gombeen man. Why a fib too far proved fatal". The newspaper denied libel, pleading qualified privilege and justification.

Vandals wreck gravestones

About 115 gravestones have been wrecked by cemetery vandals, police in Scotland said yesterday.

The stones, most of which were old, were overturned in Inveresk Cemetery, Musselburgh, Lothian, at the weekend.

"This is a despicable act of vandalism," a police spokesman said. "Not only is this wanton damage, but seriously injured if a headstone fell on them. Police are appealing for

Labour is on alert for an early by-election in Wirtal South. after the Liberal Democrat candidate, Paul Gilchrist, pulled out of the contest "for family reasons" on Tuesday. The surprise move followed the resignation of lan Wingfield, the Labour

The vacancy was caused by the death last month of Barry Porter, the Tory former minister. If Labour holds Barnsley East, and wins Wirral South, the government would be one seat short of a majority. John Rentoul

may be suffering from mental problems, and his mother, at a house nearby

Ulster Loyalist leaders

yesterday urged the Prime Minister at a meeting in Downing Street to bring Sinn Fein into all-party peace talks in Northern Ireland. The message was reinforced last night in a frank exchange of views between Irish and British ministers in Belfast. The meetings took place after Sinn Fein tabled a four-point

plan for the resumption of

the IRA ceasefire, which is

unacceptable to British

ministers. Colin Brown

Universities work to rule

Around 100,000 staff at universities and colleges of higher education yesterday began an indefinite work to rule following Tuesday's 24 hour pay strike. Employees from professors to porters at banning overtime and are 'working to contract" in protest at a 2.5 per cent pay

offer for manual workers and 1.5 per cent for other staff. The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals is looking to next week's budget to increase spending on higher education to avert further strikes. Barrie Clement

Great leap for mature man

Story Musgrave, 61, yesterday became the oldest astronaut ever as the latest Space Shuttle mission went into orbit. Dr Musgrave has spent more than 860 hours in space and almost 30 years on particularly dangerous for the Nasa's space programme. But culprits. They could be this will be his last flight. Dr Musgrave announced before the launch that he has been told not to expect another trip into orbit. Charles Arthur

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Alastair, darling ... but not Mr Campbell

It is a difficult tale. Chief Secretary to the Treasury William Waldegrave issues this big document claiming to cost all Labour's 89 spending commitments ("copper-bottomed" - John Major). Most of it is nonsense, some of it is true, but at the front it says that - in its compilation - civil servants were used in accordance with rules laid down by Sir Peter Butler (head of the Civil Service and thus a godlike figure on a par with Lords Cullen, Nolan, the Police Federation and Scien-

Then some over-enthusiastic Tory spin-doctor called Charles Lewington tells the political editor of the *Daily Telegraph* (shy, retiring George Jones)



DAVID AARONOVITCH

that Sir Peter has "approved" said document. This is repeated by Mr Jones on Newsnight, and in BBC bulletins throughout the long, political night. Sir Robin Butler is miffed -

and assures the world that it ain't so, leading the London Evening Standard to conclude (in a banner headline) "Bang

goes Tory Tax Bombshell". So, without a single assertion in the document being so much as debated, it has already been derailed by an inaccurate claim evant to its content - being refuted. OK?

And that is why Mr Tim Allan, joint number two to Tony Blair's press secretary Alastair Campbell, staggered to Labour's rebuttal press conference carrying a large bundle of the helpfully headlined Standards, which he then proceeded to hand out free to the

assembled journalists. Then Mr Peter Mandelson (either the "sexiest MP in Britain", or a "force lurking in the darkness", or both), began

ty, hot-foot from the Newsnight studios!" This obscure jibe was about someone entirely irrel- clearly intolerable to the sensitive Jones, who promptly walked out. "I hope he punch-es him on the nose", said ITN's political editor, Michael Brunson, remaining firmly scated despite his clear sense of outrage. "Anyway," he went on, "it's all based on BBC mis-reporting."

> him affectionately. Eventually Gordon Brown appeared. He was late, he said, because "the exercise of finding Tory lies takes a bit longer than you initially allocate". As is his

The BBC contingent regarded

to berate the *Telegraph* man with "here's George Jones of the house journal of the Tory par-isometrically testing his lower" able to an incoming Labour administration to spend on telling the truth.

veal. The whole exercise was "the most expensive lie in po-litical history", at £7m (mandible stretch). And it was all rubbish because - under his regime - "ministers will be asked to save before they spend" (stretch). Presumably they could start by not telling any lies, saving £7m a throw.

There were more statistics. We had, according to Mr Brown, "89 Tory lies on top of 22 Tory tax increases". I made that 111 Nasty Things in total. £777m wasted on lies, but avail-

Mr Brown then offered the He had his own costing to re- stage to "Alastair, darling". This turned out not to be an intimate invitation to the hovering Mr Campbell, but an introduction to Alastair Darling, Shadow Chief Secretary, to address us. Mr Darling - who, with his startling silver hair, jet-black eyebrows and pixie features, looks like something from a Richard Dadd painting - was there to re-fute the Tory claims one by one. It was a lie that Labour planned to spend more on rail safety. nurseries, the disabled etc. as the wicked Tories falsely At £7m each, that amounted to averred. Which is a shame,

Move to change listing of St Pancras station to accommodate works for Channel tunnel

Threat to Queen of railway stations

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

A last-ditch attempt will be made in the House of Lords tonight to stop ministers re-moving historic building protection from St Pancras, the undisputed Queen Empress of railway stations".

The Government wants to remove the protection to help London and Continental Railways (LCR) raise the money it needs to develop the station as the terminus for the Channel Tunnel rail link. But Lord Cavendish, a Commissioner of English Heritage, will try to amend the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill to ensure that the Secretary of State for the Environment retains power to call in any plans for St Pancras.

Ministers are at loggerheads with their own advisers, English Heritage, and quietly re-arranged the timetable of business in the Lords to try to avoid a damaging confrontation.

Sir Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of EH, regards the "carteblanche" exemption as "fundamentally unacceptable". In a LCR and his Cabinet minister bosses that St Pancras was a "national treasure" and warned of a parliamentary challenge. The Rail Link Bill comes up

for Third Reading after two years in the legislative mill. When parliamentary business was announced last Thursday, the Bill was not scheduled for debate. Conservationists campaigning for St Pancras believe Canames Pts300 Mattera ... Esc325 East, America, Africa and Indian £184,08; Zone 2 (Far it has been brought forward to thwart their efforts to raily support. Earlier this year LCR was engaged to build the £3bn link under the private finance initiative (PFI). The surrender of statutory powers to allay LCR's fear of any delay because

of planning inquiries will "drive a coach and horses through nistoric building protection and set a dangerous precedent for PFI projects, the Victorian Society says.

The Society's concern, and that of EH which it prodded into the fight, is over the effect of the new terminus on the St Pancras "train shed" - the vast hanger over the platforms behind the imposing Midland Grand Hotel. When built in 1852 by the engineer William Barlow it was the largest singlespan structure in the world.

English Heritage would have some control over shops on the concourse but none about the overall dimensions of an extension to the train shed, which could be of similar vast dimensions to the Eurostar station at Waterloo. The Government will ask peers to rely on guidelines agreed with LCR.

Both the Society and EH are encouraged by what LCR have said about conservation and what the architects, headed by Sir Norman Foster, have shown of their plans. "There is every combination of the new and the old," said William Filmer-Sankey, director of the Society.

But if LCR are unable to raise as much money as they had economies may have to be made. There are doubts in the City on whether LCR will raise the £900m it wants from a planned stock market flotation next year. And Monday's Channel Tunnel fire has put a question mark over revenues from its subsidiary, Eurostar, on which everything depends. "The ghost of Sir Alastair Morton in financial straits will

haunt all Channel Tunnel proare introduced. jects," said Mr Filmer-Sankey.



Spanning centuries: Girders of William Barlow's imposing 1850s St Pancras station hangar Photograph: Brian Harris

closed until made safer

Christian Wolmar, Barrie Clement, Mary Deievsky and Jim Cusick

The Channel Tunnel will be closed at least until Monday according to SNCF, the French railway company. There have been calls that it should remain shut until new safety measures

The continued delay places

the financial future of Eurotunnel in jeopardy as it will lose a million pounds a day in revenue and, possibly more importantly, public confidence in the project.

The announcement by SNCF

came amid growing fears that severe devastation has been caused to the northbound tunnel and that smoke may have also damaged signalling and controls on the Southbound The fire on Monday night oc-

curred near one of the tunnel's two crossover points and it is thought that smoke could have penetrated onto the other line but Eurotunnel refused to comment on the extent of damage last night apart from calling it John Whitwell, deputy secretary of the Institution of Civ-

il Engineers, said that the tunnel was lined with 290mm thick concrete, heavily reinforced with steel and that this will have fallen off. He said that a similar fire in the Storeback tunnel in Denmark had caused extensive damage and much cracking

The soot will cake on conductors and signalling equipment, which will take a very long time to clean off." He said it was likely that the northbound tunnel would take months to repair.

For most of yesterday, Eurotunnel's own engineering teams and officials from the Inter-Governmental Safety Commission met in Calais to discuss the conditions of the tunnel but refused to grant Eurotunnel permission to run any services. While the undamaged part of the train has been taken out at

the Folkestone end, the wrecked section of 14 wagons will be taken out in France today after the wheels have been separated from the rails to which they have become welded. The company may attempt to take it out at night to avoid the world's cameras focussing on the sight which will be of great embarrassment to the troubled company.

Firefighters urged the Government to keep the channel

of concrete. The worst problem safety measures were enforced. would be cleaning off the soot: Ken Cameron, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, accused management of "com-

The firefighters' leader set out three principles for the safe operation of the route including the introduction of enclosed rolling stock for transporting lorries rather than the present Open cage-like trucks. Mr Cameron called for the

tunnel to come under the iurisdiction of the Health and Safety Executive – an independent agency funded by the British government - rather than the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority which operated under the auspices of the Inter-Governmental Commit-

Mr Cameron's call was backed by Colin Brown, deputy research director of Consumers' Association, who said: "The operating licence for both freight and car-carrying shuttle services should be suspended until major safety problems are

French offer Gallic shrug

a Frenchman: plans for a clam-

Mary Dejevsky

Anyone looking for evidence of the cultural chasm that still divides the French and the British had only to scan the front pages of yesterday's newspapers at either and of the stricken Chan-

While the people of Folkestone were reading with horror of the Eurotunnel fire, the "panic" in he passenger carriage and the recriminations of the lorry drives, the people of Calais wouli have been hard put to it to find much about the fire at all, beyond congratulating themselves on a rescue operation that had runitike clockwork.

pdown on private cars in Paris, 'leaked" details of the scheme that will replace conscription, a government project to make convicted sex offenders take treatment, the third day of a lorry drivers' strike that is blockading several big cities, and more

But only the staid Figure offered any front page report at all about the Eurotunnel fire. and this was tucked inconspicuously half way down the right hand side with a headline that said: "Eurotunnel - a drama averted." The summary of an article inside the paper suggested the paper's line: The fire started "for an unknown reason" in

Yesterday's front pages in a lorry leaving from the French

arrived quickly on the scene ... SNCF (French railways) cannot say exactly when services will re-

Only inside was there any talk of "panic" and evident "gaps" in safety arrangements. It was a similar story on the

airwaves. While the British media were leaving no lorry driver and no official un-interviewed in their quest to find out what had gone wrong and who was responsible, the French were being treated to accounts of how fast the coordinated French-British rescue services had arrived and forecasts of how soon the tunnel would reopen. Even on the morning after the fire, it was the unfortunate fall in Eurotunnel share values that head-France offered plenty to worry terminal ... the rescue services ed French news bulletins.

Ruddles County Riddles. No. 12. Change for the Better

Peter, James and John had arranged to meet up with several ether key members of their local village cricket team to watch highlights from an esthusiastic amateur video of their latest, greatest mid-season match.

Like any thoughtful hosts

estering for grown-up tastes they decided to get in a basic stock of flavoursome Ruddles Centy in corresient cass. They also agreed as friends do, to share the expense and each chipped is a topper to the kitty. John volunisered to pop

round to the Off Licence on

After be'd left laden with ale the Manager of the Off Licence realised he'd oversharged bim by £5. To rectify the situation immediately, he gave his pay assistant 5 pauce coice and instructed bim to rea after John and return the carrect change.

The assistant who was on probation (in more senses than one) caught up with John, explained the situation but being a little aconomical

with the truth kept 2 pound coins for himself and returned 3 pound coies to John.

Unsuspecting John thanked him and returned £1 each to Peter and James, keeping £1 for bimself. In effect this meent that the 3 friends had expended £9 each and the shifty assistant had nicked £2.

The strange thing is this £9 multiplied by 3 = £27.00 pies £2 that was misappropriated = £29.00.

What happened to the



-CES is to secondarian fallises. The earlies way to be the color of th

Nation of self-indulgent xenophobes?

Permissive but intolerant, liberal but cautious, the British are a contradictory lot according to a new survey

David Walker

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in Darling Shat territy to address to the with his the production

Private leatures h Dinne front a Rich

am was thereby averantion property that labout places

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Back in the grey and austere 1940s, tens of thousands of respeciable British people tried smoking dope. Perhaps it was with the Army in a Cairo souk, perhaps it was in the backstreets of Liverpool. We know that because three per cent of those who are now 65 report that they did to the latest British Social Attitudes survey.

We now live in a different Britain, and there is a lot more dope. Of those aged 18 to 24, more than one in three (37 per cent) acknowledge some experience with the weed. Only a third of 18-24-year-olds disagree with the proposition that camiabis be legalised - the rest either agree or won't plump. But according to today's sur-

vey - the annual snapshopt of the nation's beliefs - we are not a nation of drug-heads. More than four-fifths don't want heroin legalised, and it is only in places like London that you get significant numbers agreeing with the idea that possession of small amounts of heroin should not be prosecuted. But the fact_

The vision is of a future Britain that is liberal and tolerant

is that youth is a lot more liberal-minded and, as far as cannabis goes, they do it as well as approve of it.

Yet illiberalism is evident in our views of foreigners. Significant evidence of renophobia is uncovered, with nearly twothirds of English people saying the number of immigrants should be cut and a quarter say ing immigrants increase crime rates. During the past couple of years there has been a marked shift of opinion against the Eu-

Not surprisingly, young peo-ple's liberalism extends to sex. Ask younger people about sex on television or homosexuality and you get a broadly tolerant. permissive reply. If you extend questions to the family, there are signs of young people preferring friends to family for advice or loans. advice or loans.

That's the youth of today. Project that picture 40 years into the future and what do you get? Oldies smoking while watching sexy videos with their gay tomorrow's young people turn friends? It sounds like the plot reactionary and illiberal.

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of a second-rate sitcom, but it is a fair reflection of what is to come. Between the lines of the survey is a pretty convincing pic-ture of a future Britain that is more liberal, tolerant and, yes, there's a peculiar whiff in the air in the old folks' home.

Britain is ageing. That social fact has become a kind of mantra for welfare state pessimists and a category of doomsters worrying about how we'll pay for pensions. Most of that anxiety is either misplaced or stirred up by people on the right who think you can run an ad-vanced civilised society on a Japanese-size tax base. They collude with new moralists who would like the future to be censored, repressed and locked up inside the family.

The political fashionables

of the new moralism is not founded on changed public at-titudes. Virginia Bottomley takes it upon herself to say that David Cronenburg's film, Crash, is so dreadful it should be banned. In taking such a view, she is speaking for about 19 per cent of the British population—the number of people who (according to the BSA) say a "film with a frank scene of man and woman having sex" should never be allowed on cinema screens. British Social Attitudes records majorities for banning adult telephone services and a higher proportion of people saying they would ban sex on the radio than in cinema.

That is not to say the British are permissive. On a scale of one to six, six represnting showing everything to everyone and one a complete ban on all sex scenes everywhere, the national average is 2.55. It is when that is broken down for age and education the future starts to look liberal. The 18-24 age group scores 3.13 and graduates 3.00. And those figures link with BSA measure of attitudes to abortion and euthanasia.

The more graduates, the Reports of the death of the fammore liberal the country be if y are much exaggerated, the comes. The older today's young research concludes, after example in 1995 (bit was people got, the more liberal we get. The evidence is that peo-ple do not, as they age, get crotchety like their parents. On the contrary, once picked up, liberalism lingers like a virus -what researchers call a cohort effect. "Society's attitudes are likely to become more permissive as younger cohorts replace the older ones," the survey says. The evidence predicts that 21st century Britain will have a strong liberal bedrock - unless







Flag is raised for Little **England**

OUR HATES

Some strong measures of xenophobia English people and yet more Scots ap-proving the proposition that Britain should limit imports to protect the economy. Around a third of both nations say television should give pref-

erence to British programmes.

There is widespread support for the proposition that political refugees should be allowed to stay in Britain and near-unanimous support for schools making more effort to teach foreign languages. But some 64 per cent of English people and slightly more Scots and Welsh say immigrant numbers should be reduced. Some 37 per cent of the English and 34 per cent of Scots disagree that immigrants are good for the economy which, taken with evidence that peo-ple favour making Britain more open to new ideas and cultures, suggests a certain schizophrenia on immigration.

In 1994, 37 per cent of British peo-ple wanted closer ties to the European Union, but a year later, this figure had dropped to 29 per cent. There was a marked fall in the numbers of those wanting the UK to unite fully with the EU. Yet some 14 per cent (up from 11 per cent in 1994) want the UK to leave the EU, while 28 per cent want

Britain to increase EU powers.

British Social Attitudes says the nation is now divided into four identifiable groups - supra-nationalists unmoved by symbols of British nation-hood (and more likely to read *The In*dependent, they say); patriots who are not anti-immigrant but relish nation-al sentiment; belligerents, who read the Sun and want to keep people out, but are not proud of what we have; and John Bulls who want to keep

Family life is victim of clock The not-so-flexible worker

amining the extent to which relatives keep in touch with each other and rely on family mem
Despite growing bers by leans, help and advice. But changes in the pattern of work, notably the growth in numbers of women in fall time

employment seems to have cut family contact among Adult women in full-time work see much less of their mothers than they did a decade ago. In 1986 some 64 per cent of working women saw their

once a week; by 1995 this was

Despite growing mobility and a common tendency for people to move away from their family home to attend college and seek employment most family members still live within an boar's journey of one an-

Around two thirds of parents with grown up children live less than an hour's journey time away from at least one of their sons or daughters – down, but only slightly, on the figures for most authoritarian, too. mother (assuming she did not

contact with friends has also fallen – suggesting it is change in work and leisure time that explains the change rather than some cataclysmic "decline of the family

The family that prays together stays together ... What the data shows is that church attenders score the highest on the researchers' "family orientation index" - a composite measure of attitudes towards family life and contacts. Profamily families emerge as the

m years ago. Employees are now markedly Contact between relatives Employees are now markedly Less willing to retrain in order Less willing to retrain in order Less willing to retrain in order

in the mid-1980s, while unemployed people are less willing than they ever were to take an However there are some "unacceptable" job rather than

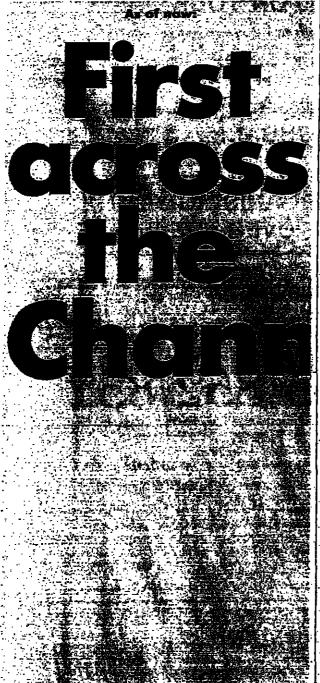
stay on benefits. According to British Social Attitudes the "flexible labour market" wished by Government ministers is less in evi-

dence now than ten years' ago. Asked if they would be willing to retrain to find a replacement job, 49 per cent of employees said they would be "very willing", compared with 54 per cent in 1983. Of the unemto retrain compared with 50 per cent a decade ago.

signs the unemployed are now more willing to think about moving house in order to find work. Some 59 per cent of the unemployed say they have never considered moving, down from 65 per cent in 1983.

The survey suggests that despite lots of talk about job insecurity peoples' attitudes the job market are towards more bullish than they have been for some time and their bepresent employer more than 20 years, compared with 11 per cent in this category in 1991 suggesting there is a core of the workforce which is highly se-

However more people than a decade ago consider it likely they will leave their present job during the year ahead and there has been a significant drop in the proportion of employees who consider it unlikely there won't be some disturbance in their employment in coming months.



Small, fat men with big columns fall out

Marianne Macdonald Media Correspondent

Punch, the reborn satirical magazine, seemed to have developed a curse which put Hello in the shade yesterday after its editor was sacked only a month after the premature departure of his deputy.

Peter McKay, the former gossip columnist with a reputation for enjoying the good things in life, left yesterday after a showdown with his chairman, the former London Evering Standard editor Stewart Steven.

Mr McKay had been appointed editor in March by Mr Steven, his old friend and for-mer editor at the Standard. His job was to relaunch

Punch for its new owner, the Harrods proprietor Molamed al-Fayed, four years after the 151 year old magazine was closed by United Newspapers amid £1m annual losses and the image of being read only in den-tists' waiting rooms. Mr McKay was paid a salary of £180,000, but allegedly on condition that he did not write for any other publication without Mr Steven's written permission.

To Mr Steven's surprise. therefore, he opened the Daily Mail at the start of this month to see a column by Peter McKay. This is understood to have caused a difference of opinion between the two old friends, with Mr Steven taking the view that he would be unable to carry out the difficult task of successfully relaunching Punch if he was devoting some of his time to the Daily Mail.





Knock-out Punch: MacKay in characteristic guise, and his first issue

The column duly disappeared after its first foray, and Fleet Street observers conchided that that was the end of

Imagine Mr Steven's astonishment, then, on opening the Mail on Monday to find his editor once again gracing the comment pages with a column.
By now relations are said to

have soured somewhat, with Mr McKay arguing that he was perfectly entitled to write a column in his spare time on Sunday and Mr Steven arguing that he was not.

After a formal warning, the saga came to a head. Mr McK- McKay will take legal action.

ay refused to drop his column. arguing in his defence that Mr Steven himself found time to the chance of turning Punch write a political column for the round, but he behaved in a fash-Mail on Sunday: ion which made it inevitable that

The dispute was not helped by Punch's feeble circulation, which at around 45,000 is barely more than when it was closed

Mr McKay finally left the magazine yesterday without a pay-off two months after it was launched with a glittering party at Harrods, and one month after his deputy, Mike Molloy,

Mr Steven said last night: "I'm very sorry that Peter McKay has left. I believe he had

I could no longer work with

Mr Steven, who now finds himself back in the editing seat. is expected to begin the search for a replacement at once. As he has in his gift what some regard as one of the best jobs in Fleet Street, with opportunities to be seen around town and a salary larger than some news-It is not clear whether Mr paper editors are paid, the task may not prove too onerous.

iel-last

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Figures hide the fact that £10m building is designed to integrate children with a range of special needs

Real story behind the school with the nation's worst results

Education Correspondent

Yesterday Filsham Valley School came bottom in the Government's school league tables - one of only two comprehensives in England where no pupil gained five high-grade GCSEs.

This might have been just the sort of school whose failures ministers aimed to expose when they spent £1.2m on publishing

all exam results, but it isn't. Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education, clearly did not think so when she officially opened the East Sussex comprehensive in May, two years after it took in its first

The parents of last year's four GCSE students, all of whom had special educational needs, did not think so, either. They were delighted that their children had taken the exams at all.

A glance at the tables might leave the impression that Filsham Valley is just another struggling comprehensive. In fact, it is the first of its kind in the country: a brand new, £10m building designed to integrate pupils with physical and sensory disabilities into mainstream

The first three year-groups each have a full complement of more than 120 children, including seven with special needs who work alongside them. The top two years each have a handful of children with disabilities who come from a local special school which has closed.

This year's 16-year-olds, who would not have taken exams in the special school, manone gaining seven including

tember and thanked staff for He is now taking an information technology course at col-lege and is talking about going to university.

League tables, though, do not

provide the flexibility needed to describe such achievements. Standards in Education, due to visit the school in January, are unlikely to criticise it for its low exam performance, though, or for its high absence rate - some children were away for the whole of last year, having med-

Local parents are not antious to criticise the school, either. They are keen to bring their children to one of Britain's best-equipped schools.

With four technology rooms and with modern studios for recording, dance and drama, most people who come here are

The head teacher, John Voice, is not unduly worried about Filsham Valley's league table ranking.

Local people know why it sits so far down the list, he said, and

not even mention it. The inclusion of the school makes a mockery of the tables. he said. "We were very pleased with the GCSE results last summer," he added. "Each pupil performed above their expect-

the local papers will probably

However, future tables should show Filsham Valley in

ed level."

"We look forward to being the most-improved school when we begin to take GCSE with the aged 12 CGSEs between them, comprehensive intake," Mr Voice said. "It will, however, be



Thriving in the shadows: The pupils of Filsham Valley School achieve highly given their difficulties, but the league table give them no credit

Shephard ultimatum to Ridings authority

Judith Judd **Education Editor**

Inspectors will be sent into all schools in Calderdale, West Yorkshire, unless the Labour authority agrees to an investigation of its services by Friday, Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, threatened

She asked Tony Blair, the Labour leader, and David Blunkett, the shadow education secretary, to support her

demand for an inspection of the council, which admitted that it had failed the Ridings school.

Labour said she was merely trying to divert attention from an internaging behind most of the rest of Europe in maths. A spokesman said Calderdale had already said publicly that it would co-operate with anym-

spection. The only issue was tinging. Mrs Shephard asked Calderdale to

volunteer for inspection after inspec-tors failed the Ridings school. They said bad teaching, poor management and the authority were all to blame.

The Government cannot force a lotional report on maths and science cal authority to co-operate with such which shows English 13-year-olds lag-Bill going through the Commons would enable it to do so in future. However, the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) has powers to.

inspect any school and could inspect all Calderdale's schools.

Last week, the council said in reply to Mrs Shephard's request that it was considering setting up its own independent review and wanted "detailed discussions" on the scope of the proposed inspection.

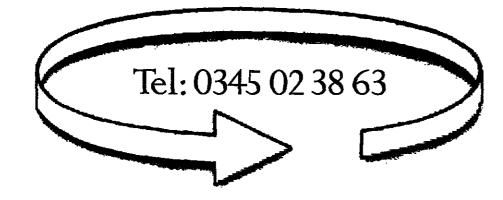
Mrs Shephard said: "Calderdale's handling of the Ridings school has achieved national notoriety. It is outrageous that the authority should be anything other than wholly co-operative in welcoming an independent Of-sted inspection of their services to

pupils and parents." In a letter to the council, she demanded a definite response without conditions by the end of the week. The inspection is scheduled for the first week of December. An Ofsted spokesman said: "We are ready to inspect Calderdale and are dis-

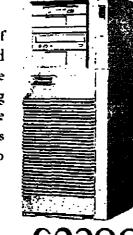
appointed by their prevarication." A Labour spokesman said: "Mrs Shephard knows perfectly well that Calderdale has agreed to co-operate. She seems to be trying to create a conflict where none exists.

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Former Labour deputy leader fined £75 by the beak after his dog is involved in bloody killing of royal goose

Hattersley harbours ferocious killer

Michael Streeter

needs *

The last time the Labour MP and former minister Roy Hattersley declined to appear for a public engagement, the producers of BBC's satirical Have I Got News For You memorably replaced him with a tub of lard.

Yesterday, when the eloquent elder statesman exercised his right not to appear at Bow Street Magistrates, central London, there was no obvious cooking material on show; but the culinary theme was kept alive in a hearing dominated by a dead goose.

The bird in question was an innocent grey-lag goose loung-ing in St James's Park before it was fatally savaged by the Birm-ingham MP's Staffordshire bull terrier Buster. To a courtroom crowded with

journalists for a case lasting just three minutes, Richard Heatley, for the prosecution, outlined the main details of the offences. He described how police officers patrolling the park at 8.15am on April 8 this year came across the goose so bad-

ly injured it was "close to Within an hour witnesses had fingered the former shadow home secretary's "small brown dog" and Mr Hattersley was interviewed and cautioned

at his nearby home. At this point the stipendary magistrate, Ronald Bartell, intervened to ask whether the unfortunate goose had been destroyed, to be told that sadly, the animal had died "as a result of its injuries".

did not stop there. Questioned by the police, Mr Hattersley said he thought his pet had been chasing a squirrel rather than a goose, and later in his letter of mitigation described how he "cleared up" after his bound had responded to a call of nature - only for the dog to escape.

Mr Hattersely, who pleaded guilty by letter to two offences in breach of royal park regulations, added the dog had not been intentionally let loose, and that he "much regretted"

He also promised to the court he would keep Buster on a tighter leash in future to ensure no repetition of the

Dog's life: Hattersley and his dog Buster (right) were absent from the hearing. In another famous absence on *Have I Got News For You*, he was replaced with a tub of lard

> The MP, who is standing down at the next general elec-tion, was fined £75 for allowing the dog off the lead and permitting it to attack the goose, and ordered to pay £30 costs.

Later a spokesman for Mr Hattersley, who was speaking in his Sparkbrook constituency yesterday, issued a statement

gretting the incident but clearly pointing the finger at his dog's headstrong nature. "He [Buster] was never detached from the lead. Unfortunately I

His office was unable to confirm reports that Buster had paid the ultimate price for his misdeeds and been castrated after the April attack. But the dog has clearly been

rehabilitated in the politician's household - today be joins his owner for walkies in



Memory pill helps to roll back the years

Liz Hunt Health Editor

A "memory" pill that helps old people to recall information as easily and accurately as people 50 years their junior is under-going trials in California and Sweden.

Scientists at a conference in Washington DC heard that the drug, containing chemicals known as ampakines, also improves recall in people as young

Dr Gary Lynch, a neuropharmacologist at the Uni-versity of California at Irvine, said the drugs could one day be used by students cramming for exams. "We're going to need some kind of legislation on how we use these drugs," he told the Society for Neuroscience.

The findings have implications for those with Alzheimer's disease, which causes progres-

sive dementia. In the study, at the Karolinksa Institute in Stockholm, a dozen men aged hetween 65 and 73 who were taking the drug scored higher in memory tests than men taking a placebo. Medium doses of ampakines doubled their scores, according to a report in New Scientist, while higher doses trebled them, bringing the scores into the range seen for 20- to 25-year-olds. In younger people the effect was less dra-

matic but still detectable. Ampakines are thought to improve the flow of information

Any therapeutic drug based on the chemical is some years away but American scientists plan to try it on Alzheimer's patients early next year.

British Library is £511m waste of money, say MPs

Westminster Correspondent

TCOLLIC DE TISECI AS A INOCIel of how not to manage a major construction project", according to a report by an all-party group

While the scheme has attracted criticism before because of the constantly rising costs and the lack of controls, this attack government departments and agencies are made aware of the lessons which have arisen."

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fice report published in May, criticises virtually every aspect от ще рг when no budget was drawn up for the whole project, until the present time, when, as recently as June 1996, the cash limit was increased from £450m to

Most of the increase came in the early stages of the project and relate to unsound electriable in the strength of its language. It adds: "We look to the Treasury to ensure the strength of the strength of its language. It adds: "We look to the Treasury to ensure the strength of the strength of its language. It adds: "We look to the strength of its language. It adds: "We look to the strength of its language." brary at St Pancras, first announced in 1974, was started in were based on the construction 1982, but now the building will cost and as it rose, so did the fee.

THE FORECAST

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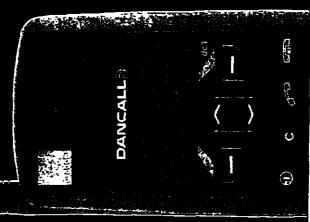
AREAS

IS HEAVY SNO

The Committee, which ex- not be completed until 1999 (afamined the National Audit Of-fice report published in May, 1991). Yet, despite the expenditure of such a huge sum, the cent more seats than the existing Bloomsbury premises in

the British Museum.

The Committee lays the blame on the Department of National Heritage, which is nowresponsible for the project. It is particularly critical of Laing Management, the construction managers, whom the department estimates will receive £38m in fees by the time the project is completed. This is because most of the fees were based on the construction



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Fuses blow over Tory tax 'bombshell'

Political crossfire leaves casualties as civil service head dragged into row

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Labour and the Conservatives were locked in combat last night after the Tories dropped their latest tax "bombshell"

Waldegrave said shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown was planning 89 tax and spend policies that would add a further £30 billion to public spending - costing the average family an around £1,200 a year. Mr Brown opened up a Labour

counter-barrage, saying: "Having lied about their own tax plans, and raised taxes 22 times against all promises, they are now lying about Labour's tax and spending plans." The exercise left a significant number of casualties including collateral, friendly-fire injuries suffered by Sir Robin Butler, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Home Civil service, who was dragged into the centre of a crude political doglight. In February, Sir Robin instructed Whitehall officials to obey ministerial

position policies. The second victim was Mr Waldegrave, who faced a revival of the highly-damaging complaints made arms to Iraq, which accused him of using "sophistry", and making state-

instructions on the costing of Op-

of being sustained by serious argument" and just plain "untrue".

Labour was also shown to have made statements that might have been taken as pledges, but which Mr Brown yesterday flatly repudiated. He made it plain, for example that, Treasury Chief Secretary William Labour's commitment to a publicly owned and accountable railway system was not a priority. "We have made no financial commitment to that," Mr Brown said. "What we have said is that British Rail will be re-created as a public-led body. But we are making no commitment to buying shares or anything else." The day's battle began with Mr

Waldegrave issuing a dossier listing 89 alleged Labour commitments. "Each is backed by firm pledges from Labour spokesmen or in Labour Party documents," Mr Waldegrave said.
"The total cost of these commitments comes to £30 hillion." Labour replied in the afternoon

with a dossier of its own, repudiat-ing the basis of the Tory allegations - attempting to defuse the "bombshell" that worked so effectively in the last General Election. Rebuttal followed rebuttal as the day

wore on, with the Conservatives issuing a further dossier at 7pm, head-

That result was less clear-cut to those who had tried to get Mr Waldegrave to answer some basic questions at his morning press conference. He had said that the £30bn costing was "equivalent to Labour putting the basic rate of income tax back up from 24 pence to 33 pence, the level under the last Labour Government, and the higher rate up from 40 pence to 70 pence. That would cost the average family around £1,200 a year." However, when Mr Waldegrave was asked to say how much Conservative tax increases had cost the average came coy."We had to put up tax's during the recession in order to pay for spending at the present level." Neither Mr Waldegrave, nor Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, would repeat the commitment given during the last election, that there would be no further extension of value-added tax -

a 1992 pledge broken with VAT on domestic fuel and power. Opening a pre-emptive strike against the Conservatives last week, Mr Brown said: "The Tories have raised taxes 22 times since the last election. including the rise in National Insurance, cutting the married couple's, ly-damaging complaints made ed, Labour's £30billion Cover-up: cutting mortgage interest tax relief, against him in the Scott report on Labour's Rebuttal Rebutted. Mr and the unfairest tax of all, VAT on fuel. If the Chancellor cuts the baments that were "apt to mislead". Labour Party, round one has been the typical family will still be paying "not remotely arguable". "incapable won by the Conservative Party." almost £500 more in tax per year."



family since the last election, he be- Dogfight between Waldegrave



The Tories' sums and how Labour answered them

That Labour will:

Introduce national minimum wage

Tory costing: £3,700m Source: "There should be and will be . . . a statutory minimum wage" (Tony Blair 1996 Labour conference). Costing assumption: impact on public sector pay bill of minimum wage set at half median male earnings, with domino effect on differentials. Labour response: The minimum wage level will be set "according to the economic circumstances of the time".

Increase spending on house-building Tory costing: £2,600m

IOTY COSTING: £∠, bUUM
Source: "We need to... allow local councils to invest capital receipts to build and renovate homes." (Draft manifesto, New Labour, New Life for Britain, 1996) Costing assumption: Total amount of capital receipts set aside since 1990 in England estimated at £7.3bn. If released over five years at £1.5bn a year, could be topped up with annual receipts.

Labour response: "All of Labour's plans for council house spending will come from the phased release of

house spending will come from the phased release of existing receipts currently held by local authorities."

increase overseas aid

Tory costing: £2,298m

Source: "Labour will start to reverse the decline in UK. aid spending." (New Labour, New Life).

Costing assumption: Restoration of the aid budget to the 1979 level, of 0.52 per cent of GNP.

Labour response: Labour has no such commitment. Labour response: Labour has no such commitment.

Reduce social security benefit tapers Tory costing: £2,000m

lory costing: £2,000m:
Source: "We will: combine our long-term objective of a lower rate of income tax . . . with reductions in the rate of benefit withdrawal." (New Labour, New Life). Costing assumption: A reduction of the maximum marginal rate of benefit withdrawal, for every extra £1 earned, from 97 per cent to 84 per cent. Labour response: Initial outlay would come from antifraud measures, but "we expect that within three years of implementation, a benefit-to-work strategy ... will start to reap substantial savings for the taxpayer."

Return business rates to local control: Costing

£1,400m.
Source: "We propose to return the business rate to local control subject to protection for local businesses."

New Opportunities for Business, 1996).
Costing assumption: Increase of 1.9 per cent a year in business rate - an extra one percentage point.

Labour response: Their approach "not designed to raise more money but to assist the development of a real partnership between the trustness and the locality"

Introduce sabbaticals for teachers

Introduce sabbaticals for teachers
Tory costing £1,300m.
Source: "We should explore arrangements to provide sabbatical terms to help people recharge batteries and further develop their skills." (Blair, January 1996).
Costing assumption: Teachers with 10 years' service taking four months off; those with 15 years' service taking full year; and 170,000 teachers with current 15 years' service. Cost of £4.25bn spread over five years.
Labour response: Spokesman David Blunkett said that costs would have to be funded from existing resources; lower early retirement costs and industry sponsorships. "There would be no new money."

End council tax capping Tory costing £1,200m

Source: "Crude council tax capping should go, though as any government must, we will retain reserve powers in extreme cases." (New Labour, New Life).

Costing assumption: Local authority spending increase of extra one percentage point a year, equivalent to 1.9 per point increase in council tax.

Labour response: "We will retain reserve powers."

Minimum guaranteed income for pensioners

Costing £1,100m Source: "Labour will... examine ways of getting better automatic help to the poorest pensioners." (New Labour, New Life). Costing assumption: A minimum guaranteed income of

£80 a week would cost £4,300m.

Labour response: "We believe that the pension entitlement could achieve significant savings in the administration of the benefits system."

Five hard-and-fast pledges are endorsed by party rank and file



if you are.

Anthony Bevins

Labour has just five hard-and-fast pledges, the solid commitments that the party agreed in its draft manifesto, New Labour,

New Life for Britain. The pledges, endorsed by a mass vote of rank-and-file party members, are:

A cut in class sizes to 30 or under for all five, six- and seven-year-olds; ■ Fast-track punishment for persistent

Cut National Health Service waiting lists by treating an extra 100,000 patients; ■ Get 250,000 under-25s off benefit and into work; and

Set tough rules for government spending and borrowing, ensure lower inflation, and strengthen the economy.

Labour says that it would finance the cut in class sizes by phasing out the assisted-places scheme, but the Tories estimate that would pay for less than one-third of the cost.

The bill for action could look very different from the account presented

Yesterday's Conservative dossier said that statisticians at the Department of Education and Employment "calculate that between 4,900 and 10,300 extra teachers would be needed in England and Wales" to fulfil the pledge. The total cost for the United Kingdom is put at £210m.

Even the Conservatives calculate that Labour's fast-track punishment for young offenders would cost only £5m.

Labour says that it would provide funding for a cut in National Health Service waiting lists by "releasing £100m saved from NHS red tape". The Conservatives said yesterday that it would cost considerably more to cut waiting lists by 100,000. It said: "Labour claim that this money

would be redirected from the cost of administering the internal market. However, abolishing the internal market would in fact cost more money.

As for the long-standing commitment on unemployed under-25, Labour has said it would fund that by using some of the mon-ey raised from the windfall tax on priva-

Yesterday's Conservative costing on that pledge was £500m, with 400,000 under-25s unemployed for more than six months each year. The gross cost would be an estimated £860m, with benefit savings of £420m, but there would be extra firstyear costs, according to the Tory dossier, because action would need to be taken for the existing pool of 270,000 under-25s un-employed for more than 6 months.

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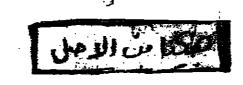


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How £1bn public money is wasted on this

Justice system for juveniles attacked as shambles despite costing £1bn a year

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

The justice system for juve-niles is in disarray and failing to cut crime, despite costing £1bn a year, the official public spending watchdog says today.

A study by the Audit Commission states that "less is done now than a decade ago to address offending by young people". Only 3 per cent of the estimated 7 million offences committed by those aged 10 to 17 each year result in arrests and action by the criminal justice system, it says. It adds that there is little or no assessment of whether schemes to prevent offending actually work

The overall impression obtained by the commission in a 18-month inquiry is of a youth justice system in an expensive mess with almost no agreed national strategies and with local authorities acting as an emergency service rather than a preventive one.

Labour, penal affairs groups, and the probation services yesterday seized upon the report as evidence that the current gov-

ernment strategy was failing. The study is a blow to the Tories in the run-up to the election, when law and order, particularly youth crime, is like-

The commission recom- diverting around a fifth of young mends a radical shift of re- offenders - those involved in the sources from "processing"-young offenders through the courts to tackling their behaviour and its causes. But the Home Office yesterday rejected suggestions by the commission to give local authorities a greater role in dealing with ju-

venile criminals-The police in England and Wales spend about £660m a year on juvenile crime, much of it on identifying around 150,000 of fenders. About three out of five of those aged 10 to 17 are usually just cautioned. Once a young offender is detained, a police officer completes around 40 forms. It cost another £2,500 to achieve a prosecution, in a process which typically takes four months from arrest to sentence and an average four appearances before court.

But despite the time and money expended, half of those proceeded against effectively faced no real sanction - with their cases being discontinued. dismissed or ending in a discharge, the report says.

It points out that although there are a number of programmes designed to prevent offending they are not assessed regularly, "so there is no op-portunity to learn from experi-ence". The report recommends

less serious crimes - away from the present system into programmes know as "caution plus" - thus saving £40m anmually on court costs.

The Northamptonshire Diversion Unit is highlighted as an successful example of such a programme, which involves a police equation backed up by compensation for victims and

compediation for victims and action in address offending behavious. There are similar schemes throughout the Netherlands.

In conclusion the Commission sale. The current system for designs with youth crime is inefficient and expensive, while little is being done to deal effectively with juvenile nuisance. Jack Straw, the shadow

Home Secretary, said: "As this Home Secretary, said: "As this report shows the current youth institutions the current youth institutions are strandinary mambles. Transforming it is a more priority for Labour."

But David Maclean, the Home Office minister, argued that action was being taken to specurary courts and deal with school indiscipline.



The commission's main points

- Youth crime costs public services £1bn. Needs an
- System is expensive. slow and inefficient.
- Only 3 per cent of estimated 7 million crimes by juveniles each year result in arrest and court
- "Less is done now than a decade ago to address offending by young people," says the study.
- Anti-offending programmes should be assessed. More intensive supervision for persistent offenders needed.
- E Greater co-ordination in local authorities and central government

Diversion tactic cuts youth crime

Clare Garner

". > pense

It was nothing a £3.50 window lock couldn't fix. Just a question . 90-95 per cent of offenders The same boy who slipped

through the tiny pantry window to burgle the property returned to the house weeks later - this time to secure the catch. The victim had wanted to

know bow she had been burgled and the offender was able to show her. The reconciliation was arranged by the Northamptonshire Diversion Unit which resolution to the crime.

"It was a very simple thing," said Sandy Pragnell, the unit manager. "It only cost the offender £3.50 and both parties got something out of it. Something positive." This is an everyday tale at the unit which applies a "partnership approach" in place of the legal

The Audit Commission has highlighted the unit as an example of a "caution plus" programme - one which steers

crime and compensates victims. Of the 40 per cent who returned a survey about the unit, and 89 per cent of victims said they were satisfied with the outcome of its work.

First-time offenders in Northamptonshire are given a warning and those who reoffend are referred to the diversion unit - approximately 1,200 each year - of which the majority are men under 25. Research by Nene College, in Northampton, has shown that those who go to acted as an intermediary be- the unit are less likely to comtween the two parties and ar- mit a third crime than those who

The unit's strength is its multi-agency make-up. The 29 staff are seconded from the police, probation, health, education, social services and youth service. enabling them to pool expertise.

As an alternative to court, it may sound like a soft option. But Miss Pragnell insisted the opposite was true. "The major eason some opt for the courts is that working with us is too hard," she said. "We confront them. We say: You know you've committed this offence. What young offenders away from are you going to do about it?"."

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Euro-sceptics win vote with Labour help

Chief Political Correspondent

Tory Euro-sceptics yesterday joined Labour to inflict an embarrassing defeat on the Government over claims that Britain's "opt out" from the European single currency has been undermined by Brussels.

John Major now faces the threat of renewed Tory backbench rebellions in the run-up to the election, unless he blocks the measures by the European MPs claim would rob Britain of its opt-out and hand control of monetary policy from the Chan-cellor to the Governor of the Bank of England.

Tory Euro-sceptic MPs packed into a meeting in a committee room at Westminster to give a show of strength against the Government for refusing to allow the claims to be aired in the chamber of the

Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, was drawn into the row to force the Government to back down and allow the debate to go ahead, after the defeat by

Thatcher, broke the Government's majority on the committee when he voted with Opposition MPs. The rebellion was seen as a

clear threat by the Euro-sceptics to end their pre-election truce with the Government if John Major fails to reject the proposals by the European Commission which they claim would open Britain to fines for failing to meet the targets on debt for those inside the Euro-

Parliament under a Labour

for widescale constitutional re-

single currency. Mr Cook told a Westminster press gallery

tish Parliament, and the "par-

ent" referendum act could

Labour's legislative pro-

The referendum could be

triggered by an order which

could be passed later through Parliament with a simple ma-

jority vote. The will be seen as

an attempt to avoid the refer-

endum on a single currency be-

ing blocked by Euro sceptic

Parliamentary tactics and the

business of a Labour govern-

ment becoming bogged down in

government.

The Prime Minister shrugged off the defeat and the threat of fines was "something right at the end of the road ... So it is very much a last resort. This is one of the things that is being discussed as part of the so-called

The call for a full debate on European Monetary Union was also backed by Tory former ministers Kenneth Baker, John Redwood and chairman of the Foreign Affairs select committee David Howell.

Mr Redwood said Commission proposals would mean Britain would be forced to accept "price stability" as its prime target for the economy. "The Government should tell us how high interest rates would have Minister barks up right tree



John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, hugging a silver birch which he planted yesterday outside St Thomas's Hospital, London, to mark National Tree week. "I was told it would be good for me and I'll do anything that's good for me, " he said.

Supersurgery

revolution put back a year

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Pilot schemes for family doctors' "supersurgeries" and perhaps health clinics in supermarkets will be delayed for a year under the NHS Primary Care Bill published yesterday by the Health Secretary, Stephen

Dorrell: The Bill allocates £6m for the preparation of the plans by doctors for expanding their services, but none of the pilot schemes will be given the go-ahead until the next financial

year, starting in April 1998. Although the measure is a flagship for the Tories in the runup to the election, it signalled the Government will use the extra £500m for the health service to be announced with the Chancellor's Budget next week to avert a crisis this winter in NHS

hospitals.
The Independent has learned that Mr Dorrell is expecting bospitals to make ends meet this winter with flexibility over the rules requiring a 6 per cent re-turn on capital.

Mr Dorrell came under fire in the Commons yesterday from Chris Smith, Labour's health spokesman, for the spending crisis facing hospitals this winter, but he ruled out any emergency injection of cash before the end of the year.

will announce that national pay awards for NHS managers will be held down while more generous pay awards are given to nurses and doctors next year to answer Labour's allegations that the higher spending on the NHS is being swallowed up by

The health minister, Baroness Cumberledge, and Baroness Jay, the Labour front bench spokeswoman on health, will go "head to head" in the Lords over the Bill, which is due in the Commons in

Under the Bill, family doctors will be able to open "super-surgeries" offering NHS patients a wider range of services, including small operations and special care for chronic illness es such as asthma.

Hospitals will be able to employ GPs for the first time, but there is a power in the bill to allow organisations outside the NHS, which could include supermarkets, to offer primary care on the NHS.

A White Paper to be published next month will pave the way for nurses at practices to do work which is currently

reserved for GPs. The BMA is pushing for GPs to be given a "core contract" with payments for all additional items, but ministers are resisting the idea because of the



GOING ON THIS CHRISTMA

Save water now or be caught short in future

Nicholas Schoon **Environment Correspondent**

The nation's toilets need changing, urgently, to cut water wastage and reduce the risk of shortages, a cross-party committee of MPs said yesterday.

In a report prompted by several severe droughts in the past seven years, the House of Commons Environment Committee said: "Reducing the volume of water being flushed down WCs is a priority."

That measure alone could cut household consumption by 10 per cent - "sufficient to mitigate any effects of climate change which are now predicted to occur."

The committee wants the standard flush on all new cisterns to be six litres, and incentives to encourage people to replace their current nine- or 13-litre cisterns. "We cannot afford to wait 50 years for old cisterns to wear out," says its

the highest priority of all should be to reduce mains leakage; for some companies a quarter or more of water collected and treated escapes before it reaches the customers. The industry's regulator, Ofwat, should set a maximum limit for companies on how much can seep out of their pipe networks "as soon as possible", said the committee

chairman Andrew Bennett. The report is highly sceptical about increasing the number of water meters as a way of permore wisely. The MPs visited low-income families on a London estate with meters.

"We saw families beset worries about paying metered water charges," says their report. They accepted evidence that hygiene might be threatened and disease encouraged when poor, anxious people wash themselves and their clothes less, share baths and flush the toilet less frequently.

But the MPs also doubted

big gardens and sprinklers, and swimming pools - use less.

Instead of meters, other ways rising demand for water should be tried. Dishwashers and washing machines which given "eco-labels".

☐ The sea water at 10 per cent of Britain's 472 designated bathing beaches still failed to meet the minimum, basic standards for sewage bacteria set by the European Union this summer, the Government said vesterday.

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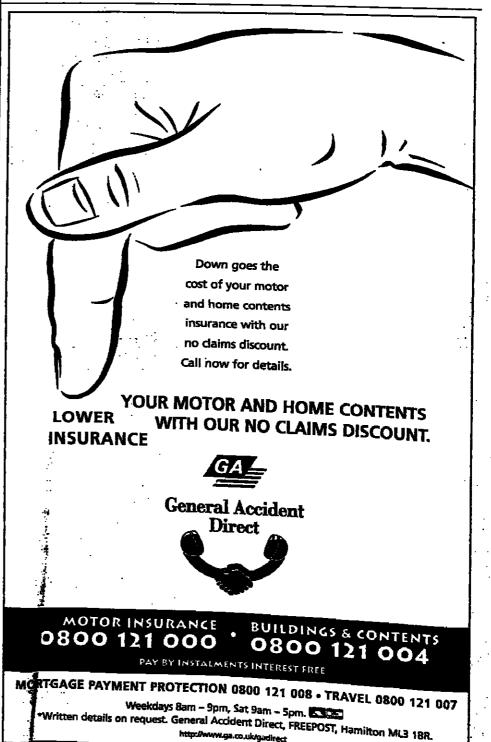
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nearly 20 years ago but Britain was allowed to comply by the end of 1995; it still fails to. The Government said the water industry, now privatised in England and Wales, had spent £2bn in recent years on coastal sewerage improvements which had pushed up the pass rate for beaches from below 70 per whether metering would make cent to 90 per cent.



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Film crashes into barrier over cuts

Marianne Macdonald Media Correspondent

Crash, David Cronenberg's disturbing film about a group of people who find car crashes and resulting injuries erotic, has been banned - at least temporarily – from being shown in the West End of London.

Westminster City Council's licensing sub-committee imposed an interim prohibition yesterday after walching the film, despite appeals from 50 leading film makers to allow it be released. In a statement, councillors

said they had three serious concerns about the controversial film based on JG Ballard's novel which won the special jury prize at this year's Cannes Film Festiva!

The first was "the sex scene involving a woman wearing cal-lipers". The second, the final sex scene, involving a man who forces his wife's car off the road and then has sex with her after she is thrown from the car, and the third the statement by one of the characters, Vaughan, that "car crashes are fertilising and

not destructive". While not explicitly calling for the scenes to be cut, the councillors "would be reluctant for the film to be shown in Westminster in the form shown today". Their ruling is crucial because it puts the film out of bounds for many of the leading West End cinemas. The film is due to go on general release in Britain in January. After viewing the film coun-

By Pauline Stainer How it intoxicates to have air for half an hour

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of eels as they graze my wetsuit

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DAILY POEM

Pauline Stainer's The Wound-dresser's Dream (Bloodaxe) has

been shortlisted for the 1996 Whitbread Poetry Award. She has been described as a poet "working at the margins of the

sacred" in airy verse that is both intellectual and sensory. Many

of her poems are constructed on a bedrock of religious and

liturgical allusions, but she draws too from the visual as well

as the literary arts, and relishes an impressive familiarity with

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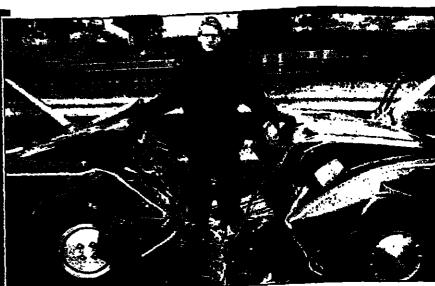
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Coleridge goes scuba-diving







Road rage: Scenes from Canadian director David Cronenberg's latest film, Crash, which has been banned from London's West End. Some Critics have described the movie as 'depraved'

enjoy the film. "I am extremely worried about the impact it might have on 18- or 19-year-olds who think themselves very clever

and tend to like fast cars." But David Awary disagreed: "I would have thought it was allowable viewing for adults if they don't mind degradation and violence towards women and

The committee chairman, John Bull, said: "It's exceedingly well made, you can't take that away. But if you are asking me personally whether I enjoyed the film, I can be quite houest, I

Their official conclusions are to be put to the British Board of Film Classification, which is to rule on the film later this year. As soon as it has, the committee will reconsider the

prohibition but retain the right to continue the ban if the BBFC give it an 18 certificate in its present form. Meanwhile, momentum is gathering for Crash to be shown

to an increasingly eager public. The film-makers Mike Leigh and Duncan Kenworthy say the film is a "work of art" which should be shown uncut.

After the meeting, the co-ex-

ecutive director of Crash, Chris Auty, said: "I think the key council has taken that view and

with BBFC chairman James He added: "The matter now rests, as it should have done all the way through, with the BBFC.

"All we really want is that our

"We are delighted that the work of art, which is how we think of this film from the bottom of our hearts, gets the continue our discussions opportunity to be seen in an

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MONCE IN SCHOOL

anger at Bradford riot report

Esther Leach

The long-awaited report on a weekend of rioting in Bradford, published yesterday, has met

with disappointment and anger. After 18 months of inquiries. into the unrest, which caused more than £1m damages in June last year, the 200 page document made no recom-

Instead, its three authors, led by the solicitor and former deputy town clerk John Barratt. presented a reflection of the views of people living and work-

Schools wage winning battle

Schools in one of the most deprived urban areas of Britain are havens of civilisation and educational endeavour, says an inspectors' report published yesterday, writes Judith Judd.

Schools in Manningham Bradford, scene of last year's riots, contain well-motivated children and committed staff, believing in the possibility of improvement and working hard to effect it, the inspec-

The main problems identified were the poor grasp of English of many of the Asian pupils, and a high level of ab-senteeism caused by long visits abroad to see relatives.

ing in Manningham, the scene of the disturbances which were triggered by the arrest of a group of Asian youths playing a noisy game of football. "Britain is awash with reports

AODELS

which make executive recommendations," Mr Barratt said.
"Bradford has the expertise in the issues raised in the report well said more time was needed

report and ... debate the issues." But there was clear disap-pointment and frustration in the reaction to the report, the va-lidity of which has already been questioned after one of its authors, the trade unionist Mohammed Taj, refused to endorse it just days before publication.

Mohammed Amran, the chairman of the Young People's Forum, said the report was a waste of time. "We hoped for recommendations to show us the way forward," he said. "But all it seems to do is highlight criticisms of the Asian culture."

The document was commis-sioned by the Bradford Congress, which is made up of business and public-sector organisations, inchiding the city council and West Yorkshire police.

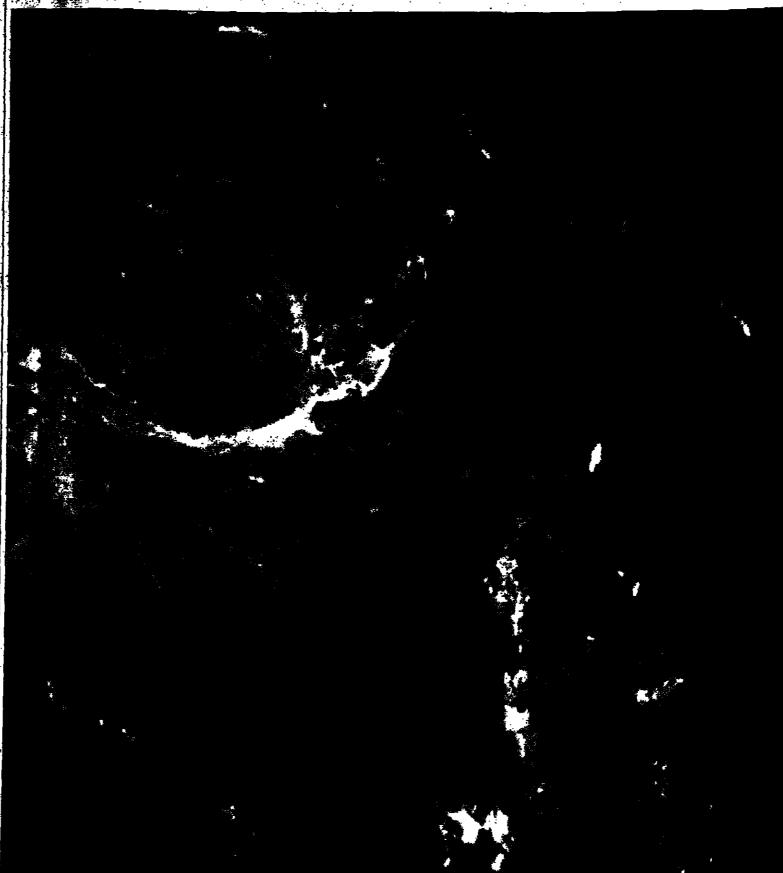
Manwar Jan-Khan, a committee researcher who has studied the riots, said that the report represented a wasted opportunity and lost hope. The report ... goes nowhere," he said.

Church leaders headed by the Bishop of Bradford, the Right Rev David Smith, said the fact that the report's authors were not in full agreement highlighted the need to continue a constructive approach to the difficult issues it had tried to address. In a statement, they said: The report itself and Mr Taj's reasons for not being able to sign it deserve careful scrutiny."

The leader of Bradford council, Tony Cairns, said he was disappointed the report failed to récognise ongoing work to tackle social and economic problems of Manningham. He added: "We agree there must never be a repeat of the disturbances and that the key to that is tackling poverty, unemployment and the attendant social stress."

The chief constable of West Yorkshire police, Keith Hella-

City vents Galactic clash creates its own art form



Science Editor

A work of modern art? An oddly lit spider's web? No: This is one of the latest pictures from the Hubble Space Telescope, and shows two galaxies colliding - an event which astronomers now think provides the fuel for quasars, the most energetic objects known in the Universe.

Discovered 33 years ago, quasars are an enigma because they are so small and yet pour out fantastic quantities of energy: The size of our solar system, they can beam out 1,000 times as much light as entire galaxies containing tens of billions of

Before the latest pictures. astronomers had suspected that the heart of a quasar was a huge black hole - a star which has collapsed under its own gravity, and which sucks in everything around it. including light.

Matter being drawn in to the black hole would accelerate causing it to emit

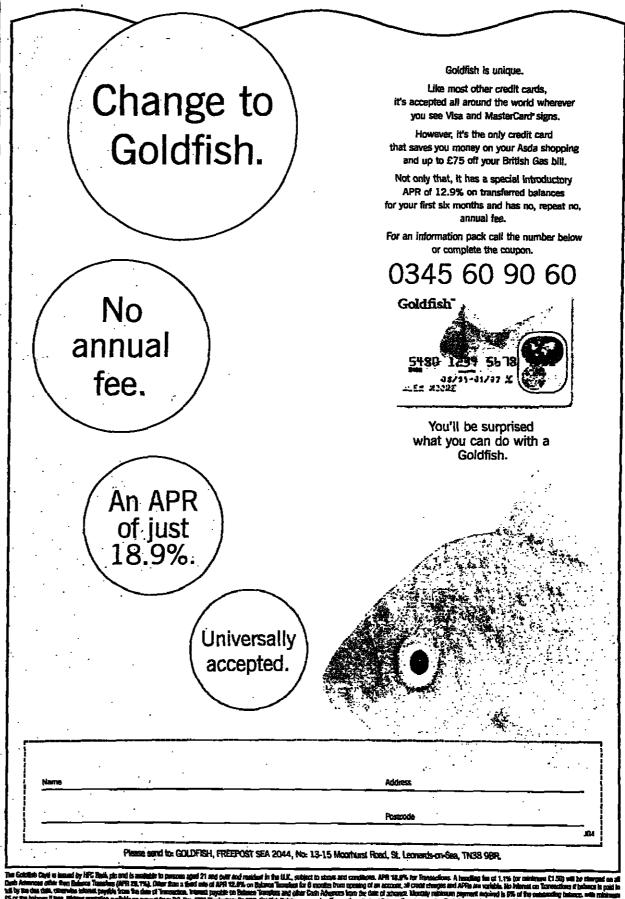
bright light. Usually a black hole might only feed on interstellar gas. But when galaxies drift into each other - as in this picture, where the differently coloured wraiths each consist of millions of stars - then a large black hole will be close enough to drag in entire suns, providing it with the raw material for a super-bright energy source.

"In nearly every quasar we look at we clearly see one galaxy apparently swallowing another," said Mike Disney, of the University of Wales, who is the leader of the European scientists analysing

The Hubble telescope has been vital in solving the quasar puzzle, he said. "I gave up on studying them 20 years ago, when I realised we had to wait for a space telescope to provide a clear enough view for solving mysteries."

However, answering some tions has thrown up new ones. Professor Disney says that the uncertainty has now shifted towards how long a quasar remains bright. If it is short compared with a galaxy's life - 100 million years, or less - then most galaxies, including the Milky Way, could be the leftovers of





Death on the Danube as mafia gangs fight for Budapest

Adrian Bridge Budapest

Mystery grenade attacks and mafia-style shootings threaten to shatter Budapest's image as one of the most civilised cities of Central Europe, replete with monuments to centuries of Habsburg rule. The upsurge in violence may even put paid to the country's booming tourist industry, which relies heavily on a growing number of wealthy visitors from Western coun-

tries, such as Britain. The attacks began modestly just under a month ago with the blowing up of a Mercedes car belonging to the owner of a gambling club. Since then, they have spread to restaurants, car showtooms and the city's growing number of striptease clubs. At the same time there have been two shootings – one fatal - of people believed to belong rants and cars. Hungarian

to Hungary's criminal under-world. Police put the violence down to "turf wars" between the many foreign and home-based maiia groups which are now jostling to control the Hungarian capital's sex and gambling rackets. And in an attempt to end their activities, the police have set up a 160-strong task force and offered a 1 million forint (about £4,700) reward for information leading to arrests.

Crime syndicates fighting

for territory are behind these hand-grenade bombings," said Laszlo Garamvolgyi, the police spokesman. "These are demon-strations of force by different criminal groups, both foreign and domestic.

The grenade attacks usually take place in the early hours of the morning and the explosions have caused extensive damage to windows, restau-



Bar wars: Mafia gangs are behind the violent fight over Hungary's sex and gambling rackets Photograph: Popperfoto

media believe the grenades may have come from two crates that disappeared from a military unit late last year. Almost all the grenades used in the more than 30 explosions in Hungary this ear have come from former

Warsaw Pact stocks. All Central and East European countries experienced a rapid growth in organised crime following the fall of Communism in 1989, and there is spec-

ulation that the latest round of bombings was sparked off by a change of leadership in Bu-dapest's large Russian mafia network, and their decision to "get tough" on rival gangs which hall from the Ukraine, Serbia and Bulgaria.

Warfare between the rival managangs is believed to have been behind the killing at the beginning of this month of Jozsef Prisztas, an underworld

figure shot at point-blank range suggested a five-fold increase in with a 9mm pistol while sitting spending on police. in his car, and behind the serious wounding of Csaba Lakatos, a prominent Hungar-

a rifle at Budapest's race track. Hungary's Prime Minister, Gyula Horn, is said to be personally monitoring the police investigation, while Budapest's mayor, Gabor Demszky, has

The prospect of civilians -and especially foreigners - getting caught up in the mafia crossire is one that terrifies ian racehorse owner who last week was shot three times with Hungary's tourist authorities. They recorded more than 30 million visitors to the country in the first three quarters of the year, many of them from Western countries, such as Britain

CHOOSE FROM A WIDE

significant shorts

Republicans vote to keep Gingrich

Putting aside their doubts, Congressional Republicans yesterday unanimously renominated Newt Gingrich for a second term as House Speaker, all but ensuring that he retains the job when a formal floor vote is held

next January. Earlier, some Republicans who blamed Mr Gingrich's unpopularity for the drop in their party's majority at the last election to under 20 seats, had privately sought an alternative. Now the only threat is an Ethics Committee worried about the costs. report due to be issued at the turn of the year, which might contain damaging revelations about Mr Gingrich's financial dealings. Rupert Cornwell - Washington

Bombs found

in Philippines

at Manila's airport and at

Subic Bay Freeport, where 18 Pacific Rim leaders will

gather next Monday for a

Ninoy Aquino International Airport, officials said. A

terminal. Another was found

in the afternoon by a janitor

in a crowded area near the

main gate of Subic Bay

Freeport, the former US

naval base west of Manila.

Security officials defused

Croatia closes

radio station

Croatia's hardline government ordered the country's last independent radio station to close, on the

that bomb. AP - Manila

bomb squad prepared to explode it outside the

Asia-Pacific Economic

Co-operation summit.

Tower inferno in Hong Kong

Bosnia vows

to repatriate

war refugees

more than Cutoff war . refugees from Germany,

nearly a year after the

stopped the lighting.

ministers of both

Dayton peace agreement

The pack signed by

governments, adds weight to a decision by Germany's 16 states to start sending back refugees on 1 October.

Germany took in the biggest

number of Bosnian refugees

outside former Yngoslavia

but now politicians are

AP - Bonn

Boonia pledged to repainate

People leapt from windows or clung by their fingertips to air conditioners on exterior walls to escape a fire in a Hong Kong commercial high-rise building, and one Two bombs were discovered fireman was killed battling the blaze. A dramatic rescue operation was launched by 160 Hong Kong tirelighters to save scores of people trapped in the 16-lloor building on the Nathan magnifying security concerns Road in Kowloon. As many as 68 people were injured.

Reuters - Hong Kong One bomb was found in a bag in the arrival area of the

UN goes on hold in Kabul

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said it was putting most of its activities in Kabul on hold "until the security situation improves", because of arrests and intimidation of its staff by the ruling Taliban militia. Rupert Cohille, a

spokesman for the UNHCR said that four of the 22 local staff in the UNHCR's main office in Kabul had been arrested, while seven Afghan women employees had been told to stay at home since the Islamic Taliban captured Kabul on 27 September. Reuters – Islamabad

Man saved by spare tyre A 300-pound (135kg) man found two miles off the US Atlantic coast was saved by his girth, doctors said. Robert Slutsky, 54, was rescued on Monday morning. "Just as a whale or polar bear is shielded from the cold, this man's fat saved him from drowning or freezing to death," Dr Michael Bloch, of St John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockaway. New York respect for human rights and state, said. Mr Slutsky Imre Karaes remains in a critical condition. AP - New York With the state of the Hill The Independent $\ker \mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{A}}$, the hear α all the second with a te P. lift.

grounds that the Zagreb-based Radio 101 was "not objective". The ministry of communication gave the station until the end of the month to cease operations. The crackdown on the station, the only significant mouthpiece of Croatia's liberal and left-wing opposition, will confirm fears that Croatia's fragile democracy is succumbing fast to the authoritarian tendencies of President Franjo Tudjman's nationalist Radio 101 will anger the Council of Europe, which recently endorsed Croatia's application only after Zagreb promised greater the freedom of the media. Marcus Tanner

Nescafé Blend 37 Competition

Starts Saturday 23 November in The Independent Magazine

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Not everyone who

tries it will like it, but everyone who likes it will love it

NESCAFÉ 37



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Vision of brutality leaves Israel in shock

Patrick Cockburn Jerusalem

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It is the casual brutality with which David Ben Abu and Tzahi Shmaya, two young Israeli border police, kicked, punched and kneed in the groin six Palestinian workers, caught trying to enter Jerusalem illegally to work, which most struck Israeli television viewers. As with the amateur video of Los Angeles policemen taking turns to beat Rodney King, the black motorist, in 1992, the film has an impact precisely because the slow-moving violence is ap-parenty inflicted without anger as part of official routine.

Mr Ben Abu and Mr Shmaya have been detained for questioning and are to stand trial. Denouncing the beatings, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, said: "The acts of those policemen who hit the Palestinian labourers are immoral and criminal. They are not worthy of serving further in Israel's security forces, and the full force of the law will be brought down on them."

He claimed that the brutality contradicted the strict standards of conduct demanded of the Israeli armed forces.

Given the level of violence inficted by Israel on the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza over the last 10 years, Mr Ben Abu and Mr Shmaya can count themseves unlucky to be singled out. Since the start of the intifada in 1987, the security forces have killed 1,251 Palestinians, including 262 children under the age of 16, according to the Israeli human rights organisation, B Iselem.

Despite frequent Palestinian claims that soldiers fired without provocation, B'Tselem says only three soldiers have been convicted of manslaughter. At the weekend, a military court in Lod sentenced four soldiers, who shot dead an innocent man in a car to a fine of one agora, the smallest Israeli coin

revulsion among Israelis because "Israeli society has a selfperception of its security forces as behaving according to the rule of law. The majority of Israelis do not want to believe

emphasise his subjugation.
The high Palestinian casualties in confrontations with Israeli security forces stem primwhat happens on the West

arily from the liberal open-fire regulations in the Israeli army under which a soldier can shoot He says that the beatings, at A Ram entry point into Jerusalem filmed by the amateur Palestinian cameramen, the one agora fine for killing a Palestinian by the military court and the decision of the Israeli

which continues despite the peace process." Mr Ben Abu, 18, a warrant officer who had served in the border police, a paramilitary organisation, for two-and-a-half years and Mr Shmaya, 19, who had been in the police for a year, appear to be ordinary enough security men. They claim that they beat the labourers because the incident took place on 10 October and they were still upset by the results of the fight-

High Court to allow physical

pressure amounting to torture

- all of which have happened in

less than a week - show "the de-

humanisation of Palestinians

raelis on 25 September. The most striking feature of the film, however, is the jocular sadism and lack of anger with worth one-third of a penny.

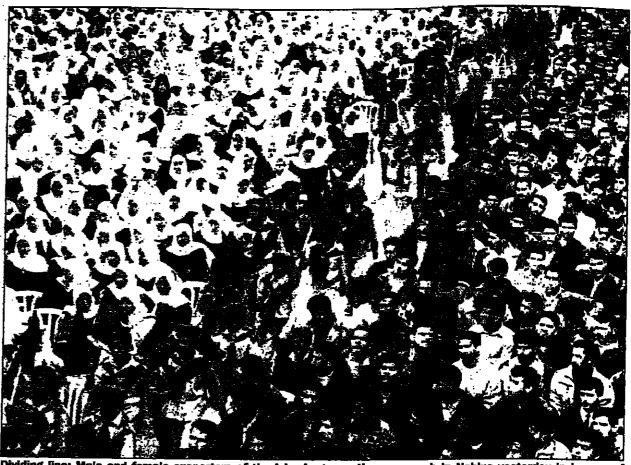
Eitan Felner of B Iselem which the police strike their victims, at one point one of them which the police strike their vic-

ing between Palestinians and Is-

if he believes he is in a lifethreatening situation. The most common reason for soldiers to open fire in the past has been Palestinian youths throwing stones, but figures show that the actual threat to their lives is very limited. More than 1,000 Palestinians have been killed since 1987, but only three Israeli soldiers have died as a result of being hit by a stone during the same period.

The A Ram incident is the second time this year that film

taken by an unseen amateur cameraman has embarrassed Israel. After 101 Lebanese refugees were killed by Israeli shells at Qana during Israel's bom-bardment of southern Lebanon in April, the army at first said it had no spotter planes in the area. Only when a video taken by a Norwegian UN soldier showed a drone overhead at the time of the attack did the army concede this was untrue.



Dividing line: Male and female supporters of the Islamic group, Hamas, march in Nablus yesterday in honour of

Bitter end to Germany's Iran affair

Imre Karacs Bonn

lran's best friend in the West was sweeping up the debris of its special relationship yesterday, wrecked by the sudden realisation that it has been cavorting all these years with a bunch of

After a three-day siege of its embassy in Tehran - denounced by a rent-a-mob as the "second nest of spies" - Germany's For-eign Minister struggled to defend his controversial policy of "critical dialogue" with Iran. The clergy in Qom repaid the compliment by waving a fatwa at three German prosecutors who had dared to implicate the

Iranian leadership in terrorism.
Breaking off diplomatic relations would be, in Mr Kinkers words "a rash decision at the moment". Matters may not go that far just yet, but Bonn's self-proclaimed role as honest broker between Iran and the West seems moribund.

"This regime tramples on human rights, sweeps opposi-tion parties it does not like out of the way and blames other people for its actions," the opposition Greens said in a statement. "How much more is the German government willing to take from this regime?"

lot. Prominent figures in the main governing party, the Christian Democrats, and the largest opposition party, the Social Democrats, have called on Mr Kinkel to abandon the relationship cultivated since "Big Satan" and "Little Satan" were thrown out of Tehran in

A rupture would cost money, a subject close to the German Foreign Ministry's heart. Germany is Iran's largest for-eign trade partner, swapping goods worth \$1.4bn dollars (£850m) last year, with billions more in the order books.

But this cosy affair has been But this cosy affair has been soured by the diligence of a Berlin court investigating the murder of four Kurdish dissidents in the city four years ago. The victims, three leaders of the Iranian Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK-I) and their integrater died in a bail of but. terpreter, died in a hail of bulcts as two masked men burst into Berlin's Mykonos restau-

rant in September 1992 and sprayed the tables with ma-

One Iranian, Kazem Darabi, believed to be working for the Iranian secret service, and four Lebanese are standing trial for murder, but witnesses have convinced the judges the real perpetrators of the operation were in Tehran. Abolhassan Banisadr, the former Iranian president now living in exile in France, told the court that "the plan for killing the Kurds in the Mykonos restaurant was approved by the President and the religious leader of Iran around three months before the assas-

That statement in effect put President Akbar Hashemi Raf-sanjani and Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in the dock, trigger-ing the first rumblings of protest in Tehran, but worse was to follow. Last Friday, one of the Berlin prosecutors compound-ed the insult by publicly voicing

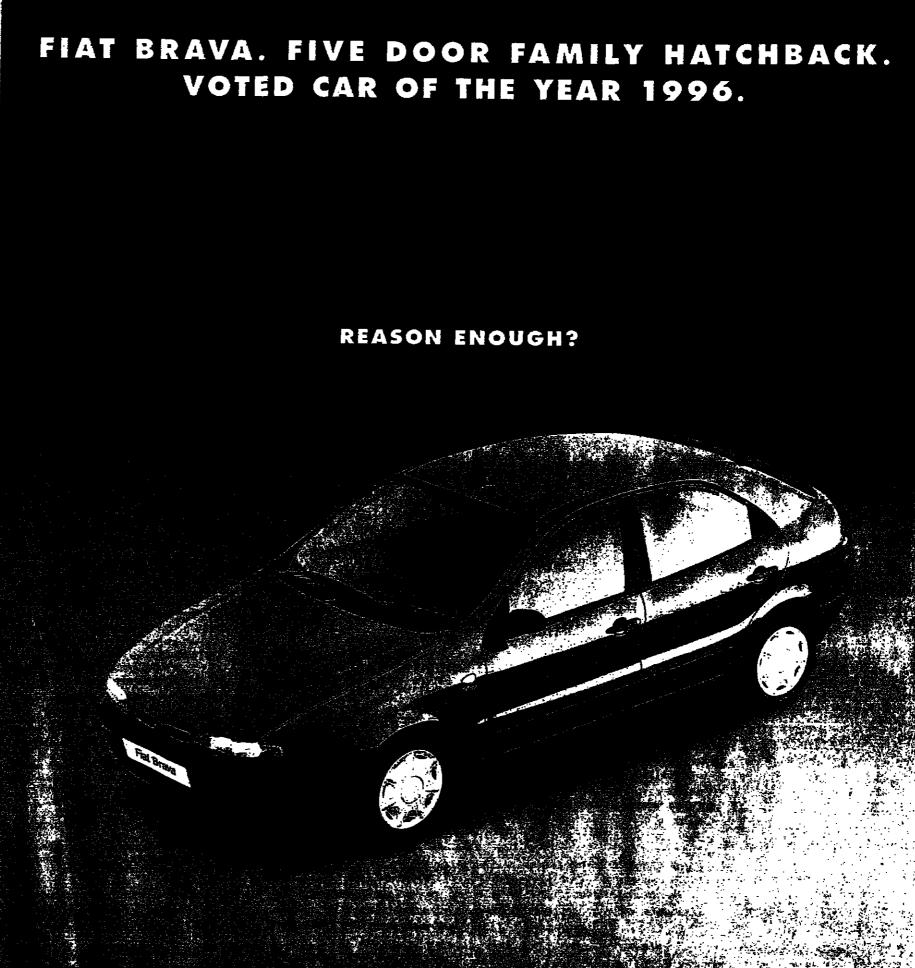
his conclusions.

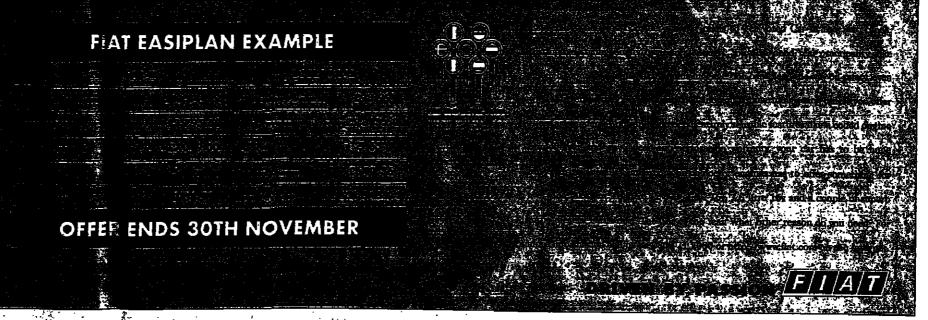
There is not the slightest doubt that the attack was decided, planned and prepared by the Islamic Republic of Iran and its leaders," Bruno Jost told the disleaders, "Bruno Jost told the court. The brazen attempts by the Tehran government to imfluence the proceedings point to this having happened on Iran's orders," he added, praising the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the argest opposition party, the court of Democrats have called the court for the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the door a bit to the headquarters of Iran-christian Democrats, and the court for "opening the

Mr Jost, as everyone now knows in Iran, is in the pay of "Zionists", and yesterday the ay atollahis in Qom likened his activities to Salman Rushdie's "crimes". Incensed by the share activity their leaders there are leading their leaders there are leading their leaders there are leaders the leaders there are leaders the leaders there are leaders the leaders the leaders there are leaders the leaders the leaders the leaders the leaders the lea against their leaders, thousands of Iranian students had taken to the streets spontaneously, brandishing placards castigating "Fascist Germany" and throw-

ing eggs at the embassy.
Some 200 members of the Iranian parliament, the Majlis, called for a revision of ties with Germany, and the authorities in Tehran threatened to "document" German supplies of chemical weapons to Iraq dur-ing the first Gulf War.

Mr Kinkel maintains this war of words will abate, and his policies will bear fruit. But so far he has nothing but Deutschmarks to show for his efforts.





Boris Yeltsin yesterday took a crucial step in his long-awaited comeback by appearing on Russian television, but his cautious return to the political fray was marred by a rebuff from his troublesome neighbour - the President of Belarus, Alexander

In the 15 days since his coronary bypass operation, the Kremlin has released several still photographs of Mr Yelisin, but his television performance provided Russians with their first close look at the patient and, far more importantly, a chance to hear him speak.

Enveloped in a large black coat and a fur hat, he looked considerably thinner and older than the burly figure who fought this summer's election campaign, but he spoke with few of the slurs or pauses that punctuated his speech just before the operation. He was also smiling and slightly

His heart - the source of so much political uncertainty and personal discomfort - felt quite

different, he said, standing next to his wife and granddaughter in the gardens of the Central Clinical Hospital in Moscow, where doctors yesterday re-moved the stitches from his

"Today I have no pain in the

"Today I have no pain in the heart. It is not like it was before the operation'

heart. I don't feel my heart. It is not like it was before the op-eration." He was, he added, in fighting mood".

He will need to be. His groaning in-tray has been piled still taller with the crisis bubbling away in Belarus, on his western border. Russia is by far the most influential player in international efforts to persuade Mr In what has become an elabo-Lukashenko to end his stand-off rate game of brinkmanship, his

with parliament over a refer-endum on the constitution which - if passed next Sunday - would give him autocratic

In a 40-minute telephone conversation yesterday, Mr Yeltsin urged Mr Lukashenko to compromise, but without much evident success. The 42year-old former Soviet collective farm director failed to attend a Kremlin-organised meeting with his opponents and the heads of Russia's two parliamentary chambers, convened in the hope of finding a

However, he is expected to meet Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian prime minister, later this week,

Yesterday, as tensions re-mained high in the 10 millionstrong nation, both sides were deadlocked.

Mr Lukashenko – who has the support of a 1,500-member ing ahead with the referendum, despite reports from Minsk last Tuesday that he was willing to reach a compromise.



in the grounds of the Central Clinical Hospital yesterday when he

there are grounds for impeaching Mr Lukashenko, the law states that his powers would be suspended until parliament de-

months in office have provided little evidence that the constitution matters a jot to him. That - his supporters would say

cides his fate. Whether he would Britain tries for special

Christopher Bellamy

Britain yesterday offered Rus-

The "civilised nations of the rity system, already lie within world" should join together to range of ballistic missiles fired fight extremism, greed and intolerance elsewhere in the world and the spread of nuclear, its more advanced systems, othbiological and chemical wea- er nations could be at risk, a pons, Michael Portillo, the Secretary of State for Defence, said North Korean officers in dark

But yesterday, many of his Russian military audience and the Russian Foreign Ministry who are the people who really

count - remained sceptical

Mr Primakov, a long-standing opponent of Nato enlargement, was very specific about areas where Nato and Russia might overcome their differences, but one of them was an insistence that both sides agree a non-agression pact.

lier aggressive intentions.
On Thesday, General Rodionov said he had been con-

Yesterday, Mr Portillo met some of them - 300 senior officers, students and staff at the General Staff Academy, the octagonal, spacecraft-like building on the edge of Moscow, which trains the élite of the Russian armed forces, plus officers from former Soviet states and

rough ride. One asked why, if Nato was now keeping the peace in Bosnia, it could not help Russia in its peace-keeping operations in the Commonwealth of Independent

States - Russia's "near abroad". Mr Portillo appeared to mis-understand, thinking he was referring to the internal affairs of Russia itself.

civilian defence ministers, asked what qualifications Mr Portillo

relationship with Russia

Moscow

sia a "special relationship of an unprecedented nature" with

in Moscow. Russian officers should be posted to Nato headquarters and witness the planning of have the ability to deploy chem-Nato operations at every level to overcome Russian fears

about Nato expansion.

Mr Portillo was on a two-day visit to Russia in which he met his Russian opposite number, General Igor Rodionov, Presi-dent Yeltsin's Chief of Staff, Anatoly Chubais, and Russia's Foreign Minister, Yevgeny Pri-

The Nato leadership in Brussels is most reluctant to sign a non-aggression pact certainly by that name, partly because they do not have an illustrious history and partly because that would imply there had been ear-

vinced that Nato was not aggressive or a threat to Russia, but that he had millions of people to convince.

their allies, for top jobs. He got an unexpectedly

An admiral, unaccustomed to

had to lecture them on military Mr Portillo outlined the dan-

more chaotic world. He said that 20 countries now possess it ballistic missiles and that some European countries, including Russia, which he stressed would be part of any European secu-

Were North Korea to export point probably not lost on three green uniforms sitting in the au-

At least a dozen countries



Yevgeny Primakov: Insists on non-aggression pact

ical or biological weapons, or have development program-

*We cannot abolish extremism, greed and intolerance. But we, the civilised nations of the world, can deter them. We must stop them winning." he said. "I hope that Russin will play

its full part in this," Mr Portilio said, "Nato and Russia can and must develop a real security partnership, founded on substance. "We do not expect Russia to

co-operate with Nato on the same terms as smaller nations. We offer Russia a special relationship of an unprecedented nature

Mr Portillo said co-operation ... between Russia and Nato in Bosnia pointed the way to future co-operation. If Russia wanted to know what Nato was up to, it should send more people to Nato to find out.

"If Russia wants to know how Nato is approaching planning for its new missions, please extend Russian representation · to levels below the high political level at Brussels - to the military commands that will be

have one. But let it not be devoted to sterile repetition of mutual undertakings which derive from the fears of a bygone age. Let us move on."



camp indicated that he would Sharetsky, appears unwilling ment-controlled airwaves to All this has the potential to turn nasty, not least because of an intriguing detail; it Relative not call off the poll unless his to do so unless he first scraps parliamentary opponents stop the referendum, reinstates the recently sacked head of the But the opposition, led by the country's election commission parliamentary speaker. Semyon and opens up the now govern- constitutional court decides that WITH EVERY PURCHASE Save on your next BT phone bill with a minimum of 200 BT minutes with all mobile phone purchases* / a far better ON ALL CELLNET Choice at The Link DIGITAL MOBILE PHONES this Christmas! With 68 stores nationwide, you'll discover a huge range of mobile phones and advanced communication products – it's the biggest choice in the Our friendly, helpful staff will help you make the right purchase to suit your needs and your pocket. Mitsubishi MT11 With fantastic offers every week, ● Up to 80 minutes talktime/ FREEPHONE 20 hours standby 0500 222 666 99 name and number memory FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE AND TO ORDER DIRECT Send and receive short text THE BIGGEST CHOICE Last 10 number redial Choose from the largest range o communication products in the UK-Our expert staff are specially trained will be happy to belp you make the Philips FIZZ Up to 75 minutes talktime/ THE LINK PRICE PROMISE If you find exactly the same package cheaper locally within 7 days, we will 45 hours standby 99 name and number memory Send and recieve short text messages FREE BATTERY Usually £39.99 MOBILE PHONE COVER Comprehensive insurance available offering cover for everything from accidental damage to theit and cal cloning. Ask in-store for details. FREE CHOICE GUARANTEE For a small one-off the of £15 when you make your purchase, you can be assured that should your circumstances change, you can return your phone and cancel your airtime. MONEY BACK GUARANTEE if you are not completely satisfied. return your purchase for a return 14 7 days for all other products. Ine Link

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planning for operations by Nato's combined joint task

forces. "If a charter can help, let us

US seeks Warmer ties with Peking

Peking

The United States yesterday noved to build a new partnerslip with China, avoiding inflammatory confrontations over human rights in favour of a relationship which could address the issues which divided the two nations.

In his first significant foreign policy statement since re-elecion, President Clinton said he vanted "to sustain an engagenent with China".

Washington views relations with Peking as its most important bilateral challenge as the two countries approach the next century. Speaking to the Australian parliament, Mr Clinton said: "The direction China

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'Taiwan still remains the core issue of relations between the US and China'

akes in the years to come, the way they define its greatness in he future, will help to decide whether the next century is one of conflict or co-operation."

He stressed the US had no

nterest in containing China. That is a negative strategy," he said, while confirming Ame-ica would maintain 100,000 roops across the Pacific.

This Sunday, at a regional conomic forum in Manila, Mr Clinton will meet for the fourth ime with his Chinese counterpart, Jiang Zemin. They may discuss a possible exchange of Hong Kong's affairs after state visits next year which 1 July next year. would symbolise a new phase in no-US relations.

In Peking, the US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, esterday emphasised the strategic importance of the relationship and the scope for building on the "positive monentum" of recent improvements in ties. However, his talks with Mr Jiang, the prime minister, Li Peng, and the for-eign minister, Qian Qichen, failed to yield any public sign of softening on the Chinese side.

While Mr Christopher con-centrated on the potential is eager to buy nuclear power

ble relationship, China was still playing hardball on key

sues of disagreement.

Mr Qian attacked the US's sive" arms sales to the island state of Taiwan, "the core issue of Sino-American relations". US officials later said sales of defensive armaments to Taiwan would continue.

Comments on the vexed questions of China's human rights record illustrated the gulf between Washington and Peking's presentation of the day's diplomacy. Mr Christopher yesterday said he had raised human rights and the recent harsh sentences on dissidents in his meetings.

"It was, I think, probably the most coming to grips dis-cussion that we've had of human rights issues for some time maybe the most of all," Mr Christopher said. China had very definitely engaged with us" on the issue, he added.

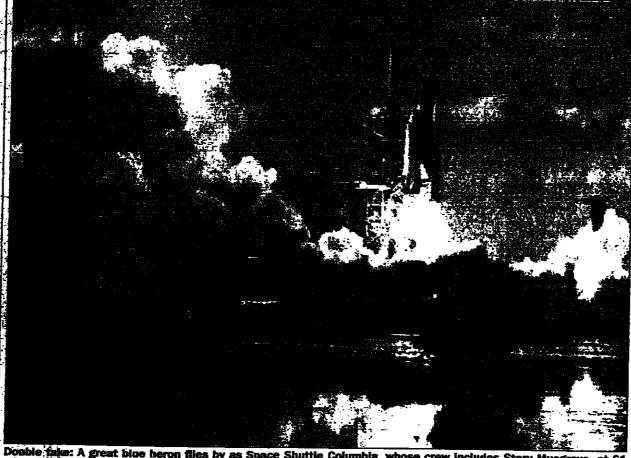
The Chinese Foreign Min-istry spokesman, Cui Tiankai, replied that Peking was opposed to the use of human rights as an "excuse" to interfere with China's internal affairs.

"Anybody who has a good true genuine understanding of China would conclude that the human rights situation is now the best of all time in China," he said. This was because in "the old days there were some other countries that took part in massive violations" in China.

On Hong Kong, Mr Christopher said the world would be watching when sovereignty was transferred to China next July. Mr Cui countered: "The return of Hong Kong to China will mark the real beginning of human rights being enjoyed by the people of Hong Kong." No other country will have the right to "poke its nose" into

Mr Christopher spoke of "inworking together", and dwelt at length on discussions relating to the non-proliferation of nuclear and conventional arms technology. The US would consider some form of peaceful nuclear co-operation with China even before the 1985 accord was fully implemented.

This might be the reward for China if it stops selling nuclear technology to Iran including, according to US sources, a uranium conversion facility. China ewards to Peking of a more sta- reactors from American firms



Double take: A great blue heron flies by as Space Shuttle Columbia, whose crew includes Story Musgrave, at 61

in space, blasted off yesterday on a mission to examine the stars Photograph: Paul Kizzle/AP

Student denies baby killing

dent accused of murdering his girifriend's haby after helping to deliver it, will surrender and deny the charge, his lawyer

Brian Peterson is charged with murder along with 18-year-old Amy Grossberg, the baby's mother.

The baby was put in a plas-tic bag and dumped in a rubbish bin outside a hotel last

Joseph Hurley said Peter-son's family had considered sending the 18-year-old abroad to avoid prosecution, but he had talked them out of it.

The lawyer described Peter-son, a student at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania, as "a combination of dazed and extremely fearful" since prosecutors said they would charge him and seek the death penaltv. He said Peterson would surrender today and plead innocent to a first-degree murder charge, so that the family

would not be charged with har-

Delaware (AP) - A coflege stu- bouring a fugitive. Hurley said on ABC's Good Morning America that the mother had con-

sidered fleeing with her son. When a mother bears her son is facing the death penalty, he said, "one of the immediate thoughts is, 'I'm getting them out of here'.

Grossberg ,of New Jersey, was arrested Monday and was being held without bail. Both she and Peterson could be sentenced to death if convicted,

Peterson and Grossberg "never went into that motel with the idea, "We are going to kill a child," "Hurley said.

On 12 November, the police anthorities say, Peterson had driven three hours from Pennsylvania to Newark to pick up Grossberg at the University of Delaware. They checked into a motel, where Peterson helped deliver the baby boy and put him in the rubbish bin.

Police believe Peterson is the baby's father but want to compare his blood to the baby's

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FIAT EASIPLAN EXAMPLE OFFER ENDS 30TH NOVEMBER 'AND & MONTHS ROAD RUND LICENCE PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GUING TO PRESS 30 109%, OFFER BYES 30/117%, CREDIT / FROM RAT MOTOR FINANCE 3 PRINCESS WAY, REDHILL SURREY, RHI INE: FIAT MOTOR FINANCE IS A PART OF THE

Fears grow for Zaire's hidden 'Holocaust'

They have been called the They have been called the said Rwanda's vice-president "missing masses" and their fate Paul Kagamae in the Rwandan has been described as a "hidden holocaust".
As fighting erupted in east-

ern Zaire last month, aid agen-cies reported that hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees had been driven deep into the country's interior, beyond the reach of help.

The agencies warned that their numbers would be decimated by hunger, thirst and disease if an emergency relief operation could not be launched with all possible

More than a month after the start of the conflict between the Zairean army and castern Zairean rebels, no real evidence has emerged of the predicted humanitarian disaster. Most of the Rwandan

refugees who started to stream home from Zaire last Friday were in good physical condition. So keen were they to return to heir neighbourhoods that few ollected rations or field packs rom United Nations agencies. However, the number of upvoted people still stranded in Laire's interior is being fierce-

disputed.
Even though official estinates have been revised since. he mass exodus of refugees last reekend, the UN says 600 to 100,000 Rwandan refugees are till unaccounted for inside

> The Rwandan government in the other hand claims that ery few vulnerable groups still

of the refugees who are based in Zaire have returned home".

capital Kigali yesterday.
The UNHCR, the United Nations' refugee agency, says that at least half a million Rwandan refugees crossed the border last weekend and that more than half a million still have to emerge from the hills and forests of Zaire.

That there is no hard evidence that these people are dy-ing, says UNHCR, should not be an excuse for complacency. "Some people have been away from food and water for

more than a month," UNHCR spokesman Paul Stromberg told The Independent yesterday.
"Added together, the lack of food, shelter and medical care will combine to cause real problems. Their condition is probably becoming more

With plans for the deployment of an international force in Zaire beginning to falter, the Rwandan government continues to make clear its distaste for

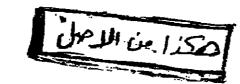
foreign intervention. Yesterday, Mr Kagame, who is also defence minister, said that since last weekend there is no longer any need for thousands of troops to protect the distribution of relief supplies in

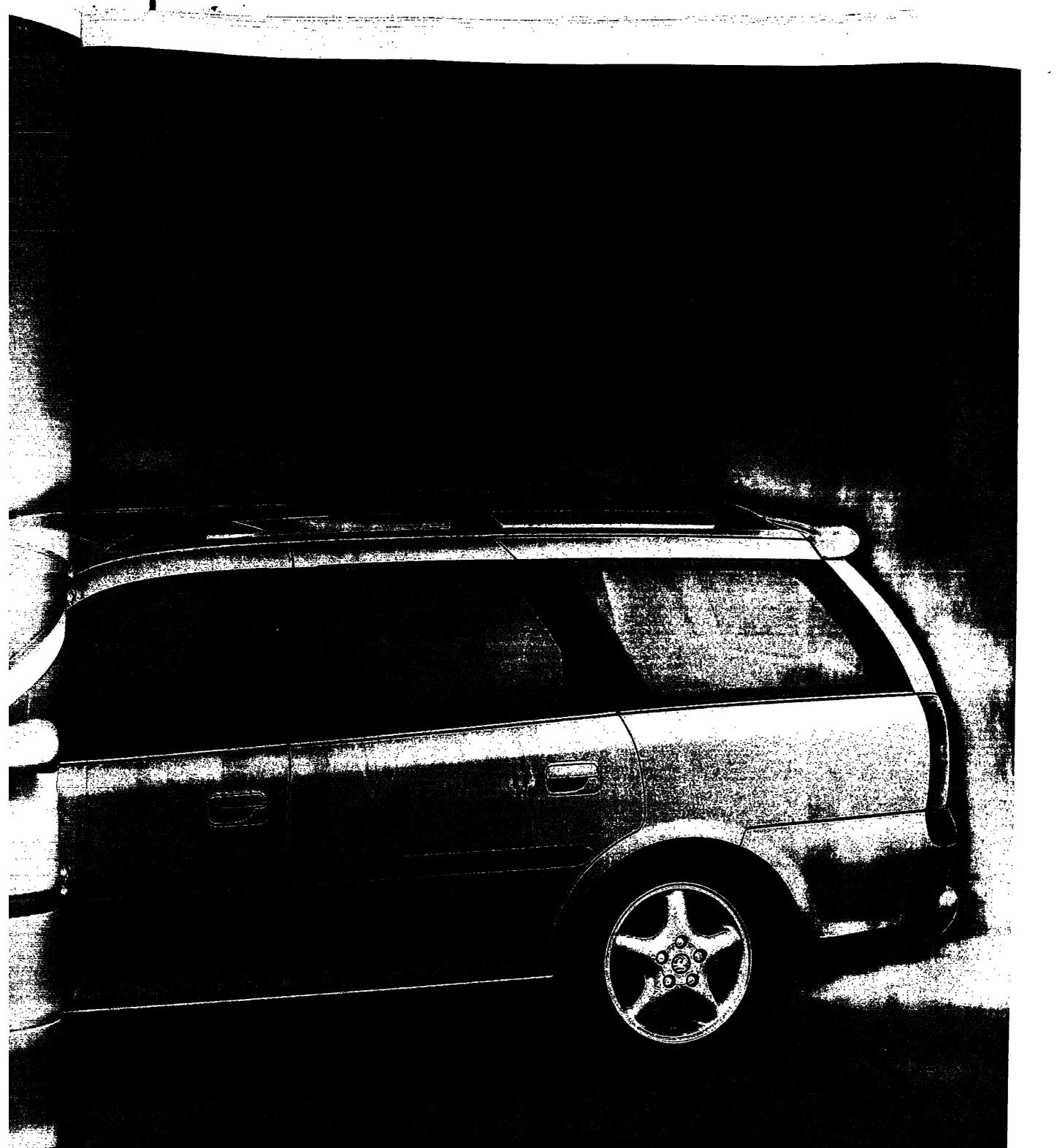
eastern Zaire. Rwanda has long been opposed to foreignistervention.
The proposed international mission has been mandated to ensure food reaches the needy and that extled Rwandans can



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> > > THE NEW VECTRA ESTATE FROM VAUXHALL



Sir Havelock Hudson

ir Havelock Hudson was peraps the last Chairman of loyd's of the old school Not 12t Lloyd's was not already hanging fast in his chairmanhip, which lasted from 1975 to 977; nor that cracks had not aleady begun to appear in the nahogany veneer which covred the market's turbulent nd sometimes disreputable redities. But in 1977, when Sir lavelock was knighted by the Jueen and also awarded the old Medal for services to loyd's, the market was still genrally seen as an untroubled and ranquilly prosperous part of the

Hudson, moreover, assumed hat the market was still lominated by men with as simole a sense of honour and straight dealing as his own, an assumption that was soon to be painfully disproved.
"Hal" Hudson began his ca-

reer in the merchant navy. where he served, as the phrase went, "before the mast" after leaving Rugby School. He went to Lloyd's in 1938, but soon en-



listed in the Royal Hampshire Regiment, from which he was seconded to the Parachute Regiment. He was badly wounded during the Normandy landings in 1944, and decorated for his part in the campaign.

He like to tell an amusing story about how one of his friends had inserted a ribald poem by Oliver St John Gogarty, "Lines to a Boon Companion", into the wrapping of his medals: If medals were ordained for drinks Or soft communings with a minx, Or being at your ease belated, By heaven! You'd be decorated.

The implication presumably was that even by the standards of a tough regiment he was thought to have had a notable capacity for enjoyment.

After the war he went back

to Lloyd's, and was elected an underwriting member (a "work-ing Name") in 1952. He was first elected to the Committee in 1965 and re-elected in 1970 and again in 1970. He was Deputy Chairman in 1968, 1971 and 1973, and Chairman from 1975

Perhaps surprisingly for a man who was something of a traditionalist, Hudson advised his successor and friend, Ian Findlay, to go ahead and build a new Lloyd's.

As an immediate past Chairman, Hai Hudson responded strongly to the news of the "Savonita" affair, which involved suspicions that the Committee had bowed to the interests of big brokers in dismissing claims by a comparatively small broker, Malcolm Pearson, that he had been son, one daughter); died Stanford pressurised into paying a Dingley, Berkshire 14 November fraudulent claim involving Fiat 1996.

cars shipped from Italy to the United States.

Hudson called immediately and publicly for a thorough investigation to clear Lloyd's reputation. Equally characterstically, when approached as Chairman by Pearson, he had expressed surprise that there should be any doubt in the matter. If the claim was a good one, it seemed to him, it should be paid; if a bad one, it should not be paid, and there was an end of the matter. "Bat straight," he said, ignoring the fact that cricket has never caught on in Italy.

In his speech thanking the Committee of Lloyd's for his Gold Medal, Hudson expressed his philosophy in what now seem poignant words. "Lloyd's does not continue to hold its unrivalled position in the world," he said, "because of its [financial] capacity, but because of its honour, an old-fashioned word perhaps, but I am speaking to people who still know what it means." Some of his hearers did, but he must have been sad to learn over the last two decades that others cannot have had the faintest idea of what he

Godfrey Hodgson

Havelock Henry Trevor Hudson, insurance underwriter: born 4 January 1919; underwriter, Lloyd's 1952-88, Deputy Chairman 1968, 1971, 1973, Chairman 1975-77; Kt 1977; married 1944 Elizabeth Home (two sons; marriage dissolved 1956), 1957 Lady Cathleen Eliot (died 1994; one

Lord Hankey

The second Lord Hankey was a man of great style and energy who was present at any who was present at some moments in history.

He was the eldest son of the arch-mandarin Maurice Hankev. Cabinet Secretary between 1916 and 1938, and there was no doubt that Robert was born to public service. His father, according to Arthur Balfour, was responsible for Britain's having won the First World War. The son had a lot to live up to.

He was educated at Rugby and New College, Oxford, and he joined the Foreign Service in 1927. He had a talent for languages and became proficient in German, French, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Persian and Arabic. He began his career as Third Secretary in Berlin and later in Paris, but came back to England in 1936, when he was appointed Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden. His next posting was to Warsaw and Hankey was one of the first to learn of Hitler's invasion of Poland. As the German armies closed in, Hankey escaped to Romania.

From Europe he went to Tehran and was there in 1943 for the most significant Allied meeting that year, and arguably of the war, between Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill. It was the first time Roosevelt and Stalin met and historians record this meeting as the moment the decision was made by the Allies

to invade France. By July 1945, Hankey was back in Warsaw where he became one of the first British of-

of thousands of Polish army officers in the Katyn forest and he was given the report of the Pol-ish Red Cross and knew of the culpability of the Russians. His next two postings were to Madrid and Budapest. In May 1953 Hankey set out

for Cairo, the ambassador having fallen sick. Hankey was a good choice. His father was a director of the Suez Canal Company. Indeed, the year of Hankey's appointment to Cairo his father predicted that the British were heading straight for disaster and that the Egyptians would take control of the canal.

A group of army officers had overthrown King Farouk and was demanding the evacuation of the British from the Suez Canal zone. Hankey was briefed by Winston Churchill that, if he did nothing else for six months, he should avoid giving anything away. Churchill also said that Hankey should see his role in Egypt as that of a "patient sulky pig". Hankey was to



Hankey: 'Churchill's stoogs Photograph: Camera Press

discover that Nasser was intelligent and a man who thought with his head rather than his heart. No better government for Egypt was in sight. But Hankey predicted that there would be a tendency for the Egyptians to make difficulties for the Suez Canal company once British troops were withdrawn.

Hankey's last posting was to Stockholm, and in 1960 he began a long and happy retirement and was appointed permanent UK representative to the Organisation for European

tennis well into his seventies and skied until his late eighties.

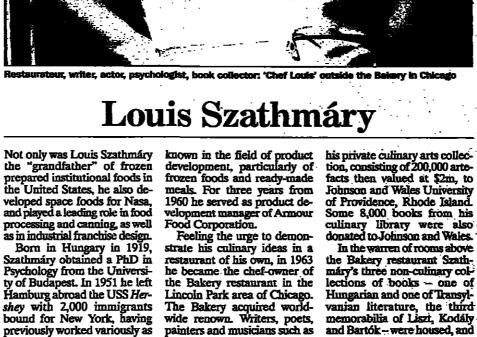
Linda Melvern

The Egyptians called him Churchill's stooge and a master of espionage.

Economic Cooperation.

"Robin" Hankey was much ed in Cowden, a small village in Kent where he spent a long and happy retirement. He was a member of the choir - the only tenor - in the 12th-century St Mary Magdalene Church. He was a fit and active man, played

Robert Maurice Alers Hankey, diplomat: born 4 July 1905; CMG 1947, KCMG 1955; HM Ambassador at Stockholm 1954-60; KCVO 1956; Permanent UK Delegate to OEEC and OECD, and Chairman, Economic Policy Committee 1960-65; Vice-President, European Institute of Business Administration, Fontainebleau 1966-82: succeeded 1963 as second Baron Hankey; married 1930 Frances Stuart-Menteth (died 1957; two sons, two daughters), 1962 Joanna Wright (died 1991), 1992 Stephanie Langley (née King); died 28 October 1996.



The Bakery acquired world-wide renown. Writers, poets, painters and musicians such as Ribor Selby and Béla Bartók Jnr were frequent visitors to the "kitchen room" alongside the main rooms of the restaurant.

The most popular dish on the menu was Szathmáry's own Beef Wellington, and so it re-mained from within six months of opening until 1989, when he retired and sold the restaurant. Throughout the Bakery years, Szathmáry wrote as a food columnist and produced

books including Sear's Gournet Forum (1968), American Gastronomy (1974), and The Chef's Secret Cookbook (1975), The Chef's New Secret Cookbook (1975) and America Eats (1992); island, Szathmáry got a job he also edited the 15-volum with a company president in the Cookery Americana (1973). he also edited the 15-volume

In 1988 Szathmáry donated

At his death Szathmáry was working on two books and was active on the editorial advisory board of Biblio magazine.

memorabilia of Liszt, Kodály

and Bartók - were housed, and

a full-time librarian was em-

ployed to look after them. This

personal library of 45,000 books

was donated to various US li-

braries: the Franz Liszt collec-

tion is housed in Boston

University, the cookery books

Louis István Szathmáry, restaurateur and writer: born Rakospalota, Hungary 2 June 1919; married 1960 Sada Tanino (one daughter); died Chicago, Illinois 4 October 1996.

Air Commodore Colin Cadell

controls throughout flight and an approach under radio conan approach under radio control to any airport in the world is now taken for granted. But in the late 1940s, and early 1950s, when Air Commodore Colin Cadell was managing director of International Aeradio, this was far from the situation. Cadell went round the world, supervising the installation of novel systems then at the frontiers of technology.

For this internationally important task, he was technically and managerially superbly well qualified. Born at Bonally in the Colinton district of Edinburgh, he was christened Colin after the district by his, then elderly, parents Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Cadell of Forhall, After Merchiston and Edinburgh University, where he studied Physics and Electrical Engineering, Cadell went as a graduate to RAF Cranwell, where he was commissioned in

Service in Palestine was fol-Service in Palestine was iol-lowed by an opportunity to be the RAF officer who spent a year at the Ecole Superieure d'Electricité, inter alia giving him a knowledge of technical French which was to prove an invaluable help in dealing with the three French air force squadrons, and in supervising the installation, post-war, of radio communications. In late 1934, Cadell was cho-

sen by Sir Miles Lampson, later first Baron Killearn, ambassador to Egypt, High Commissioner for the Sudan and, de facto, Britain's proconsul in the Near East, as his ADC. The then somewhat shy Cadell enjoyed himself and broadened his horizons.

Lampson's daughter Meg brought out her best friend and flatmate, Rosemary Pooley. The young ADC and the pro-consul's daughters and their friends held somewhat surreptitious parties during strict mouning at the Lampson court after the death of King George V. Cadell became engaged to Miss Pooley in 1938, Lampson produced the minch repeated

in the University of Iowa and the Hungarian collection in the University of Chicago. **Andrey Ellison**

That aircraft should have radio observation that "I had simply no idea that Resemany had such good tuste!" The marriage was to last 57 years and was the bedrock of Cadell's

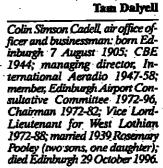
Returning home Cadell was selected for staff college in 1937 and then after a spell at the Air Ministry was given command of 18 Wing in 1940 in Scotland. After serving in the Middle East as Chief Signals Officer, he was brought back to the Air Ministry as Director of Sig-nals in 1944, Professor R.V. Jones remembers him as a straight RAF officer who was in charge at the time the night fighters first confronted the

Luftwaffe. Both the late Ronald Selby Wright, Chaplain to the Forces, and General Sir Michael Gow have remarked that Cadell must be about the only man who worked in intelligence and had not, on a matter of principle, written his memoirs. A CBE (military division) was

poor consolation for not getting the DSO and Bars of some of his contemporaries. Cadell's talents were deemed to be those of a senior technical officer, confined to the ground. It was partly on this account of not being allowed to be a front-line flyer that Cadell, against the ad-vice of his boss and friend John (later Marshal of the RAF Sir John) Slessor, left the Air

After installing radio sig-nalling and take-off and landing facilities in 30 countries from North Africa to Aden. Cadell left Aeradio for eight years on Gavin Astor's Times as a technical consultant. It was an unhappy period, as Cadell was a team player and found his employers wayward and unworkable with.

The autumn of his life was devoted to the Carron Company, where he helped to modernise an ineffective board structure in this ancient iron-founding business, to the Royal Bank of Scotland, to the chairmanship of the Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee, and to being Vice Lord-Lieutenant of West Lothian, a task which from my first-hand knowledge he performed meticulously. He was a meticulous man.



Dafydd Orwig

Bilingual education in Wales owes a great deal to a handful of local government politicians. In Glamorganshire, to the so-cialist intellectual Lord Heycock, in Gwynedd to Lloyd George's nephew W.R.P. George and – in particular – to Dafydd Orwig, who was hon-oured this year by being chosen as chairman of the new

an actor, a journalist and a psy-

chologist. Whilst waiting to

leave for New York, he was em-

ployed in Salzburg by Hofrat

Bauer, a brilliant restaurateur.

the US came from a retreat

home for semi-retired Jesuit

priests on Manresa Island, Con-

necticut, where he was com-

pelled to learn English speedily.

From the beginning he became

fascinated with frozen foods and

began serious research in the

subject. The name "Chef Louis"

was bestowed upon him early on

by those finding difficulty with

When the Jesuits sold their

food industry. He became well-

his Hungarian surname.

Szathmáry's first job offer in

Gwynedd Council. Orwig had done a long stint as an effective councillor. He had been a member of the Caemarfonshire County Council in 1973 and was a member of Gwynedd County Council from 1974 until local governtook every opportunity to safe-guard the Welsh language of the policy council. He did so with vigour and made sure that the translation service was given plenty to do by speaking always in his native tongue. I salute him for his courage and was always proud to hear him at the University of Wales Court of Governors pleading for his beloved

He argued with conviction and his vision was of a bilingual Wales with every child able to speak the language and every student understanding it.

Orwig played an active part in the academic provision of textbooks in his own discipline. ment reorganisation in April teatbooks in his own discipline.

1996. During those 23 years he He wrote his first book in

louse of Lords (Lord Mackay of

Clashfern, Lord Chancellor, Lord

of Tullichettle, Lord Mustill, Lord

Goff of Chieveley, Lord Jauncey

1961, Fy Atlas Cyntaf ("My First Atlas"), then he adapted Cyril Midgley's Looking at the Map for Edrychwch ar y Map (1972) and C. Penrose's The Landscape of Britain for Tirlun Prydain (also 1972). But his outstanding contribution was as editor of Yr Atlas Cymraeg ("The Welsh Atlas"), published in 1988. It was the culmination of eight years of hard work for him and his team.

of contributors.
Dafydd Orwig taught at the county school in Blaenau Ffestiniog and the Dyffryn Ogwen High School in Bethesta, before being appointed a lecturer in a teachers' training college, Ban-gor Normal College, where he

became an effective ambassador among future teachers. Orwig was a very politically minded individual and his suo-

port for Plaid Cymru was total. He served the party in every possible sphere, at grass roots in the slate town of Bethesta, in the council chamber and in a number of general elections, as agent for the nationalist candidate in the Conwy constituency.

His other great concern was the Celtic languages and he gave his best as chairman of the European Board of Lesser Used Languages. He was a fine Celt (he had received his early eduto the Welsh language cannot be measured. He once told me that his greatest interest in life was to promote the language in

every sphere. Personally he showed the way by deleting his own origi-nal surname of Jones, a symbolic act which became popular with so many younger members of the Welsh Language Society. The society was proud he was one of its early members.

Dafydd Orwig Jones (Dafydd Orwig), teacher, geographer and local politician: born Deiniolen, Caernarvonshire 17 September cation at Carnew School in Co
Wicklow) and his contribution

1928; married (three sons); d
Bangor 10 November 1996. 1928; married (three sons); died

Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

BIRTHS

LEWIS: On 20 November 1996, at the Rosie Maternity Hospital, Cam-bridge, to Carol (nee Smith) and Philip, a daughter, Emma Catherine,

DEATHS

PERREN: George Ernest, on 19 No-vember, died at home bravely and with great dignity. Funeral service at Ip-swich Crematorium. North Chapel, at 11.30 on Friday 22 November. No flowers please but any donations to Marie Curie Cancer Care, Suffolk Appeals Office, 20 Beach Road, Lowestoft NR32 1EA, telephone 01502 537937.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Ca-nary Wharf, London E14 SDL, tele-phoned to 0171-293 2011 or fazed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS RUYAL ENGARZEMENTS
The Once and The Dutte of Edithough visal Bedseud. The Prince of Violes, on ledest of the Queen,
holds an Investigate at Buckingham Palace; and
a President. Business in the Community and the
Prince's Trust, attends the hunch of Giffs in Kind
UK of St James's Palace. Frience Edward, Chairman of the International Cottack, The Dutte of
Edithough S. As and International Association, attrants a draner at the Savoy, London WC2. The
Dutte of Ginescetter, President, NABC - Clubs for
Young People, visits dubs in Bristol.

Changing of the Guard

Birthdays

Mr Coningsby Allday, former chair-man, British Nuclear Fuels, 76; Miss Beryl Bambridge, author and actress. 62; Mrs Georgina Battiscombe, au-thor, 91; Mr Roy Boulting, film pro-ducer, 83; Miss Tina Brown, Editor, the New Yorker, 43; Mr Jeremy Bullmore, director, 45; Mr Jeremy Bull-more, director, Guardian and Man-chester Evening News, 67; Miss Amelia Freedman, Founder and Artistic Director, Nash Ensemble, 56; Mr Nickolas Grace, actor, 49; Dr Michael Grant, Greek and Roman historian, 82; Miss Goldie Hawn, actress, 51: Mr John Horder, poet and journalist, 60; Sir Stanley Kalms, founder and chairman, Dixons Group, 65; M. Jacques Laffite, Grand Prix driver, 53; Miss Natalie Makarova, ballerina, 56; Mr Tim Robinson, cricketer, 38; Mr Peter Sharpe, chie constable, Hertfordshire, 52; Mr Malcolm Williamson, composer and Master of the Queen's Music, 65; Viscount Younger of Leckie, former Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and

Anniversaries Births: Voltaire (François-Marie Arouet), philosopher and writer. 1694; Harpo (Adolph, or Arthur) Marx, comedian, 1888; René-François Ghislain Magritte, Surrealist painter. 1898. Deaths: Henry Purceil, composer, 1695; Mariano Jose Maria Bernardo Fortuny, painter, 1874. On this day: the Montgolfier brothers made the first hotair balloon flight, 1783; construction work began on the Forth Road Bridge, 1958; proceedings in Parliament were televised for the first time, 1989. Today is the Feast Day of St Albert of Louvain and St Gelasius L

Lectures

Royal Society of Literature, London W2: Fleur Adcock, Alan Brownjohn, Wendy Cope, D.J. Emight and James Fenton, "Travelling Light: a celebration of Gavin Ewart", 7pm.
Coortand Institute, London WC2: John Murdoch, "An Object of National Splendour: Somerset House, the Search Pleafe 4 20-me. Strand Block", 6.30pm.

Luncheons Foreign and Comm Mr Malcolm Rifkind QC MP, Secretary of State for Foreign and Com-monwealth Affairs, held a luncheon yesterday at 1 Carlton Gardens, London SW1, in honour of Mr Daniel Tarap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya. Mid-Atlantic Club / English-

Speaking Union

guest of honour and speaker at a lun-Atlantic Club and the English-Speaking Union at the English-Speaking Union, London SW1. She spoke on "Europe - In or Out?"

Mr John Collinge, New Zealand High Com-

ficient", 6pm.
Royal Society of Literature, London

Mrs Edwina Currie MP was the cheon held yesterday by the Mid-

Dinners

Royal Society, London SWI: Pro-fessor Terry Jones, "Fuel for Thought: making jet engines more ef-

nwealth Office

ceived the guests.

Inner Temple Mr Edward Nugee, Treasurer, and the Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple, hosted a dinner yesterday evening at Inner Temple, London EC4, to mark the Grand Day of Michaelmas Term. Among those present were:

Brearford; The Bishop of London; Lord Wilberforce: Lord Templeman; Lord Brightman; Field Marshal Lord Bramall; Marshal of the RAF Lord Craig of Radley; Baroness Thatcher; Lady Mackey of Chashfern; Lady Eames, Lord Justice Peter Gibson; Sir Michael Colman Br; Sir Densir Thatcher Br; General Sir Martin Furndale; Sir Bryan Cartledge; Sir Peter Craft Sir Irvine Goulding; Sir Roger Bandster; Sir Authory Carty, Sir David Lees; Lady Stanghton; Mr David Rac Smith; Mrs Joyce Rose; Mr Lan Watt, Mr Decanis Sille; Mr Consrad Dehr Jan Watt, Mr Behard Food Decker, Mr Sharbara Paul Robinson; Mr Behard Decker, Mr Michael Melhish; Mr Richard Morgan; Mr John Nugfe; Mr Andrew Nugfe; Brigadier Peter Little.

Royal College of Pathologists

The Annual Meeting of the Royal College of Pathologists was held yesterday at the Royal College of Sur-geons, London WCZ, and Professor Daniel Catovsky delivered the Foun-dation Lecture. Professor Roderick MacSween, President of the College, and Mrs MacSween, were the hosts at the Annual Dinner held after-wards. Professor Sir Leslie Tumberg was the main speaker.

Anglo-Spanish Society

The Spanish Ambassador, Senor Don Alberto de Aza, presided at a dimer held by the Anglo-Spanish Society yesterday evening at the Royal Over-Seas League, London SW1. Sir Robert Wade-Gery, Chainman, re-Royal Society

Professor John Rowlinson FRS

Physical Secretary of the Royal So-

ciety, chaired a Technology Lecture

yesterday evening at 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1. Dr Michael

Bagshaw, Head of Aviation Medical

Services at British Anways, delivered the lecture, entitled "The Human

Factor in Aviation: the weakest or the

peal ([1995] ICR 281) dismissing Octel's appeal against conviction, at Chester Crown Court on 19 March 1993, for an

of the 1974 Act.

contractor's employees.

missed an appeal by Associat-

ed Octel Co Ltd, and affirmed

the decision of the Court of Ap-

offence under section 33(1)(a)

By section 33(1)(a) it is an

offence for an employer not to discharge his duty, under section 3(1), to conduct his undertaking in such a way as to ensure, so far as is rea-sonably practicable, that persons not in his employment who may be af-fected thereby are not thereby ex-

posed to risks to their health or safety. Octei operated a large chemical plant at Ellesmere Port. In June 1990, while the

Employer guilty over injury to contractor LAW REPORT

21 November 1996

plant was shut down for annual maintenance, a firm called Hoffmann) 14 November 1996 Resin Glass Products Ltd The activities of an independent (RGP) was engaged in repaircontractor at an employer's site ing the lining of a tank. One of could form part of the conduct RGP's employees, Mr Cuth-bert, was cleaning the lining of of the employer's undertaking, so as to render the employer lithe tank with acetone, a supply able to prosecution under the of which he had in an old Health and Safety at Work Act paint bucket. The electric bulb 1974 for an injury to one of the by whose light he was working broke and ignited the flammable vapour from the acctone The House of Lords dis-

in the bucket, causing a flash fire in which Mr Cuthbert was badly burned. Like other contractors at Octel's plant, RGP's employees operated under a "permit to work" system. For every job they had to fill in a form saying what they were going to do and obtain authorisation from Octel's engineers, who would consider what safety

precautions were needed. To rebut the defence that prevention of the accident had not been "reasonably practicable", the Crown adduced evidence showing that the permit-to-work system had been operated in acperfunctory manner. face mask, but not a special air lamp or a closed container for the acetone or forced air extraction for the tank.

Octel submitted it had no case to answer because the injury to Mr Cuthbert was not caused by the way in which Octel, as opposed to RGP, had conducted its undertaking. Control was essential to liability under section 3(1) and Octel had no right to control the way its independent contractors did their work.

Raymond Walker QC and Julian Waters (Hill Dickinson Davis Campbell, Liverpool) for Octel; Hugh Carlisle QC and Ian Burnett (Treasury Solicitor) for the Crown.

Lord Hoffmann said Octel's argument was based on a confusion between two quite different concepts: an employer's vicarious liability for the tortious acts of another, and a duty imposed

upon the employer himself. Section 3 was not concerned with vicarious liability. It imposed a duty on the employer himself. That duty was defined by reference to a certain kind Octel had supplied Mr Cuthbert of activity, namely the conduct with protective clothing and a of his undertaking. Section 3 re-

quired him to do it in such a way as did not create risks to people's health and safety. If he engaged an independent contractor to do work which formed part of the conduct of his undertaking, he must stipulate for whatever conditions were needed to avoid those risks and were reasonably practicable. That was why Octol insisted its contractors adhered

to the permit-to-work system. The question was simply whether the activity in question could be described as part of the employer's undertaking. In most cases the answer would be obvious. Octel's undertaking was running a chemical plant. It was part of the conduct of that undertaking to have the chlorine tank repaired.

Whether the activity which had caused the risk amounted to part of the conduct by the employer of his undertaking must in each case be a question of fact. As such it should be left to the jury. It was not done so in this case. But, since on the undisputed facts a properly instructed jury could only have concluded that having the tank repaired was part of the conduct of Octel's undertaking, the conviction should be affirmed.

Paul Magrath, Barrister

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A sick Russia is dangerous for us all

our months after Boris Yeltsin's intrigue against each other. The re-election, Russia presents a consequences for efficient government disturbing picture of political paralysis, economic mismanagement and increasing social disorder and violence. The fresh boost to the reform process that Mr Yeltsin's decisive election victory was supposed to provide has yet to materialise. In fact, on a range of fronts, from the chaotic condition of the armed forces to random street crime and the plight of millions of unpaid workers, matters have almost certainly grown worse.

The problems began with the president's prolonged absence from his desk, which culminated two weeks ago in a quintuple heart bypass operation. It no doubt came as a relief to western governments to learn yesterday that Mr Yeltsin, in his first interview since the operation, had declared himself "fighting fit" and ready to resume work after a spell in his favourite sanatorium. Yet even those who most fervently welcomed Mr Yeltsin's victory in July over his Communist challenger, Gennady Zyuganov, must wonder how badly the president's illness has

disrupted the course of Russian reform. Under Russia's constitution, tailormade for Mr Yeltsin after he crushed an armed uprising in Moscow in October 1993, power is concentrated to an extraordinary degree in the president's

Public must

pay for NHS

are predictably debilitating.

Before his re-election, Mr Veltsin aggravated this inherent weakness of his presidential system by bringing the ambitious Alexander Lebed into his administration. A torrid struggle quickly ensued between the retired general and a faction led by the president's chief of staff, Anatoly Chubais. It took almost four months for Mr Chubais to drum General Lebed out of office, a time that should have been devoted to pressing issues such as tax reform and purging Russian business life of corruption and crime. Yet no sooner had Mr Chubais dealt

with General Lebed than he injected a quite unnecessary controversy into Russian politics by appointing Boris Berezovsky, a financial and media tycoon who bankrolled Mr Yeltsin's reelection campaign, as deputy secretary of the influential Security Council. Mr Berezovsky had no obvious qualifications for this sensitive position. All that Mr Chubais achieved was to reinforce the Russian parliament's determination to obstruct the Yeltsin administration's policies, and to confirm the impression among the Russian public that government under Mr Yeltsin equals government by cabal.

While Mr Chubais schemed and Mr

hands. If he is incapacitated, his Yeltsin prepared to go under the Yetit was not until last month that the subordinates are inevitably tempted to surgeon's knife, problems for the administration set up an emergency tax



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-845 2435

budgetary crisis later in the year unless the government took decisive action against corporate tax evasion. Some of Russia's largest, newly privatised companies contribute only trivial amounts of tax revenue to the state, and this is one reason for the delays, sometimes lasting several months, that millions of public-sector workers (not to mention soldiers) endure before they receive their wages.

Russian economy were rapidly commission to tackle the problem. The mounting. It had been known since commission, which unfortunately bears that Russia would plunge into a the same initials in Russian as Lenin's infamous Cheka political police, is already said to be cracking down hard on tax-dodgers. Yet the measure came too late for the International Monetary Fund, which was compelled to suspend the latest \$340m (£205m) tranche of its three-year, \$10.2bn loan for Russia on the grounds that the government was breaking the terms of the agreement signed last February. The loan is vital to Russia's market reforms because, if Yet it was not until last month that the properly used, it will guarantee medium-term economic stability,

facilitate Russian access to world capital markets and encourage foreign investment. No doubt the IMF will eventually release the money. Yet it is a measure of the confusion inside Mr Yeltsin's administration that his handpicked officials allowed the crisis to blow up in the first place.

The same criticism applies to the administration's treatment of military reform. Both General Lebed and Igor Rodionov, the man whom he selected as defence minister, have warned that the armed forces are on the brink of a catastrophe unless emergency measures are taken. For the moment, this means mainly payment of overdue wages and restoration of discipline in disintegrating units where soldiers either fail to report for service or steal weapons for sale on the black market.

The problems may soon go much deeper. According to a recent CIA report, the control of the government and military leadership over Russia's thousands of nuclear weapons is weakening. Add to this such startling events as the crash last weekend of Russia's \$300m Mars probe, and the killing of 68 people in an explosion at a military base in the southern republic of Dagestan, and the impression of chaos in Russia grows stronger.

Far from hailing Mr Yeltsin's apparent return to health as a sign that all will soon be well, the West should understand that matters could easily get

worse before they improve. Yet in certain fields, such as modernising tax administration and strengthening control over nuclear weapons, the West can and should offer quick and practical help. True, the West will never have more than a limited influence over events in Russia. But that is no excuse for turning into passive spectators of disorder, or for behaving like naïve cheer-leaders of poorly executed reform. We, and our political leaders, should worry about Russia.

The family that never went away

Divorce accelerates. So does the number of children brought up by lone mothers. The world bewails the collapse of moral standards. Then one of the most reliable annual surveys - the British Social Attitudes survey - finds that our sense of family is still intensely strong. Who do we turn to? Parents, uncles, aunts. Who do we care for? Siblings, children, grandparents. Does this surprise anyone? Of course, families come in many forms, some tight as a prison cell, some anarchically extended. But all of us, to some extent, live in them and through them. Funny, isn't it, when surveys tell you what you already know, but weren't supposed to think?

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

decide how to Sir: The letter from Dr Brighouse (18 November) about the rationing now widespread in the NHS and the supposed development of a two-tier system to the disadvantage of patients of non-fundholding GPs does not address the true problem. In common with a large number our local hospitals to stop all non-orgent admissions. The reason is

In-patient procedures Carried out, 1995-96 In budget, 1996-67

180

of neighbouring fundholding

practices we have had to instruct

clear from the following figures.

comparing the number of procedures purchased by our

practice of 11,000 patients last

financial year and in the first six

Day-case procedures Carried out, 1995-96 In budget, 1996-67 Carried out, April-Sept 1996 379

Carried out, April-Sept 1996 141

The problem is that the drive to efficiency which the internal market aims to achieve has happened. The hospitals can now process more patients than ever before. Unfortunately there is no money available to pay for all this additional work.

There are only two possible solutions: for the Government, any government, to find realistic additional money to allow the hospitals operate at maximum capacity and reduce waiting lists; or for hospitals to temporarily downsize, or even, heaven forbid, reduce the number of hospitals to fit in with required and affordable

I see no evidence either locally or nationally of a proper costed debate which allows those most affected, the general public, to decide which of these alternative paths they wish to choose and to pay for. Dr JOHN GRACE

New victims of Nigerian 'justice'

Sir. Last year I attended the Ogoni trials as an observer on behalf of the Bar Human Rights Committee and the Law Society. Subsequently Article 19 published my detailed analyses of the flagrant injustice of the trials, the paucity of the prosecution evidence and the breathtaking dishonesty of the judgments.

I was therefore both intrigued and perturbed to read the articles you published in which Richard North ("Can you be sure of Ken Saro-Wiwa?", 8 November) and Donu Kogbara ("Ken Saro-Wiwa was never a saint", 12 November) insinuated that Saro-Wiwa was

guilty.
Sir, these articles challenge two questions. First, what reliable evidence do North and Kogbara have? There was never any impartial investigation by the Nigerian authorities of the circumstances of the killings of the four Ogoni chiefs. There was never any fair or proper trial. No right of appeal was allowed.

The two men who were to have been the principal witnesses against Saro-Wiwa alleged that they and most of the other witnesses for the prosecution had been bribed to give false evidence. This was never investigated. Furthermore the continuing military occupation of Ogoniland and widespread corruption make it very difficult to be sure that anyone

Secondly, why the emphasis on Saro-Wiwa? What about the eight other defendants executed along with him? North and Kogbara make the same error that they attribute to the supporters of Saro-Wiwa. Eulogy or criticism of just : one famous man is beside the point: nine people were brutally. executed after an unfair trial at which no one ought to have been convicted.

claiming to be a witness for either

side is truthful.

Finally, both articles, in concentrating on one charismatic figure, ignore a matter of much greater current concern. There are 19 other Ogonis who have been in custody for well over a year. They face trial by the same tribunal which unjustly convicted the nine already executed, on the same charges and on the same evidence. None of them is a famous writer and environmentalist. All are in peril of their lives. MICHAEL BIRNBAUM OC. London WC2

Tax turn-up

Sir: So the Tories have started their scare stories about Labour putting taxes up. In 1992 they said if I voted Labour my taxes would go up, and it was true. I voted Labour, and since then my taxes have gone up 22 times.

PAULRICHARDS Labour's prospective parliamentary condidate for Billericay London W6

Why crime fell in New York

Sir: Your piece about crime in New York ("City Father v the Godfathers", 19 November) perpetuates several myths about my former home.

First, its fall in crime in general and homicide in particular is not the personal handiwork of Mayor Giuliani, William Bratton was sacked as Giuliani's Police Commissioner because he gained too much credit for the zero tolerance of "quality of life" offences. Bratton had already used this approach with great succes as head of the subway police in New York, and in Boston. But US and British criminologists do not accept either man's claim that this fully accounts for the fall in New York homicides.

New York's experience is not unique. In fact, some 125 American cities have seen dramatic falls in homicide. Several others, such as Minneapolis, have seen an increase. Policing styles vary widely.

Nor was New York the most dangerous place in America. For years it has languished well behind many other cities such as Houston, Detroit and Chicago.

What is welcome is the long overdue recognition by American and British police that "quality of life" offences deserve their attention at least as much as more exciting but far less common violent crimes which drive public fear. Most criminologists agree the high number of US homicides is the result of easy access to

handguns. They admire the British government's willingness to ban them, and will be dismayed they have not followed their own logic and banned them altogether. ROGER GRAEF London W9

Oxford welcomed gift from Flick

Sir: Even by the standards of the press coverage of the controversy over the Flick Chair of European Thought at Oxford, James Archer's letter (19 November) sets a high level of inaccuracy.

He says the university's ethics committee was against accepting Dr Flick's generous benefaction. It was not, nor did the university ever seek to repudiate it.

He then says that the Chair of European Thought would have promoted understanding between European cultures. As holder of the Chair, now re-endowed by a new benefactor, I find this gratifying, but why the use of the past conditional?

The Flick case, in which I concurred with the university's decision to accept the money and was grateful for it, and the Said case, in which, on the terms the donor seeks to exact, I do not, are in no way comparable and Mr Archer does a disservice to clear thinking about either by giving currency to his self-made muddle. J W BUŘROW Professor of European Thought University of Oxford

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk).

E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Our vouchers did expand nurseries

Sir: Margaret Hodge's letter (18 November) suggests that the nursery education voucher scheme has not created new places.

The Government has never

claimed that the voucher scheme

would provide all the places needed for four-year-olds overnight. But a sound start has been made in just one term. Figures from a survey undertaken by Norfolk County Council show, in the private and voluntary sectors alone, 285 new places for four-year-olds with vouchers, and 1,300 children taking advantage of more sessions each week. Good news indeed for those children and their parents. I would be fascinated to know what Margaret Hodge considers created those extra sessions if it was not nursery

In the state sector, Norfolk County Council has created 1,300 new nursery places. Of these, some 600 are attributed by the council to the voucher scheme. Norfolk, and the three other phase one LEAs, were given modest additional borrowing permission in 1996-97 because the Private Finance Initiative - which we expect to be a significant source of capital in 1997-98 and onwards – was not

sufficiently developed at the time. Schools tend to recruit into nursery and reception classes in the autumn term. It is no surprise, therefore, that the proportion of children in state schools has

probably increased. It happens every year, as Margaret Hodge should know, with the voluntary sector picking up increased numbers in the spring and summer

ROBIN SQUIRE MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of Department for Education and London SWI

The Abbess and the Snark

Sir: The Abbess Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179) began to have those visions which so impressed and influenced her contemporaries at the age of 42; and, at the other end of the spectrum. Lewis Carroll wrote in The Hunting of the Snark: He had forty-two boxes, all carefully

But since he omitted to mention the fact, They were all left behind on the beach. JERÉMY BARKER KATHERINE BARKER Sherborne,

With his name painted clearly on each:

About that euro

Sir: Now that all the major parties have decided to hold a referendum if they decide in government to recommend that the UK should join the European single currency, which will be the first to announce that a referendum will be held if they decide to recommend against

GORDON MACINTYRE

Dorset

War dead who reject the silence

Sir: James Seymour's unease about a permanent two-minute silence on Armistice Day (letter, 15 November) may well be shared by millions, including -in absentia - many of those who died.

On my way to this country in 1943 with several hundred other trained aircrew, a dozen or so of us used to meet in one of the troopship's lifeboats after lunch, to play cards and discuss various matters. One was whether or not we wished our whole nation to come to a stop for two minutes each year on the date the previous war had ended, in order to remember those of us who would not survive the present one.

One person was wholly in favour of the two-minutes' silence. The rest of us came to the consensus that it might be all right for a decade or two after the war, if most people wished it, but that we would all much prefer that the survivors and their relatives devoted at least some of their time each year to a concerted effort in trying to understand why wars broke out, and in what way they could be prevented - a positive outlook.

As one of the very few survivors of our little group, I feel I would be dishonouring the memory of those who "got the chop" if I were now to support the very thing they did not want. It gave me an unpleasant feeling when I saw on television a British policeman compulsorily hold up a line of traffic for this year's two-minute silence. The regimented nature of the twominute silence at this late date reminds me a bit too much of the kind of regimentation that we were all fighting against, though I quite understand the noble thought LEN CLARKE Uxbridge,

Sir: Britain may well be obsessed with the past, and nostalgic compared with countries overseas.

particularly about the Second World War (letter, 18 November). The point about the two-minute silence, however, is not merely to continue some rose-unted tradition, but to remember those who died not only in that war, but in conflicts all over the world. Throughout Europe, extreme right-wing groups who share Nazi ideals still proliferate and have widespread support. The tragedy of the Bosnian conflict, which echoed so many of the horrors of the Second World War, made it clear that the world has learnt very little in the past 52 years, and two minutes of reflection a year is therefore still terribly relevant. It is a small but significant gesture, and should not be dismissed. MAJA PAWINSKA Croydon, Surrey

Spare an iron

Sir. Quite by chance I discovered the seemingly little-known fact that 1p and 2p British coins, minted in 1992 and after, are magnetic, whereas those minted earlier are not. Presumably the latter were of a copper alloy whilst the magnetic ones contain a fair proportion of

Iron is rather cheaper than copper, so the currency is, in a sense, debased. Beggars should ask folk to spare an iron, rather than a copper. And why the fuss about a single European currency, when our own is not what it used to be? Dr JAMES HUTCHISON Birmingham

PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL REID

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The Eigg race is on

Eigg are attempting to buy their Hebridean island from their laird, a German artist who has chosen to call himself Maruma after imagining that he saw the name outside a Stuttgart nightclub. Herr Maruma purchased the island for £1.6m in April 1995 from the car dealer Keith Schellenberg, whose relationship with members of the island community became so strained he requested police protection.

turn the island into "his dream

itive force for creative change. The amiable German was initially listened to with enthusiasm by the battle-weary islanders, but suspicions were raised after the 44-year-old artist requested that the cowwritten in a puddle of water pats on the island's beach be swept away as he found them unsightly, and failed to give the islanders any indication of how he was going to finance his

Three months ago, the artist, who had initially announced that on the day of his departure that he intended to be resident on the island but has so far only Shortly after the purchase, Mr been there for four out of his Maruma, who styles himself 600 days of ownership, put Eigg professor, told the press that he back on the market. The islanders launched an appeal, in imagined that it would take an investment of around £15m to partnership with the Scottish Wildlife Trust and the local authority, to buy it from him.

concept" of an ecologically responsible, economically sus-The islanders' business plan. which has evolved slowly and tainable centre of Green tourism, and he quickly condemocratically over the past vinced the islanders that he was year, is to run the island anxious to work with them, through a trust whose trustees will comprise four democrat-

members of the local authority and two from the conservation body. If they are successful, this may lead the way for other munity buyouts throughout the Highlands and Islands, providing a new pattern for wildland management.

Wednesday 13 November: Crofter Maggie Fyffe's house is one of the warmest and happiest homes that I know. However, it has no mains electricity, mains water, rubbish collection or adequate television reception, and the water is heated by a wood-burning stove. The previous laird said that he liked the island to have that "slightly rundown Hebridean feel", a sentiment that Maggie says he would quickly have been disabused of had he ever had to spent a winter on the island living in a swaying

caravan and trying to get by on a small Giro cheque. The island has no proper village hall, pier, shop or tea

he 63 inhabitants of energy of their anger into a pos- ically elected islanders, two room, and the small wind generator that heats the schoolroom is forever breaking down.

Things may change, however, because the islanders have great hopes for upgrading the island if they manage to buy it, and Maggie is the island's appeals co-ordinator.

Maggie, who is in her early thirties but looks much younger, says that she seldom gets much mail apart from "odd crappy clothes catalogues that she doesn't want in the first place". Today, though, she has received 380 letters containing £30,000 of donations. By the end of this caravans. It is estimated that week she and her team will have processed more than 900 let-

appeal volunteers consists of Scruff the lobster fisherman, whose job it is to open the mail: Tasha, her daughter, home from her job as a waitress in a pancake bar in Edinburgh to "crack other eiggs", the com-puter whiz who also fields Internet contributions; and Davie the crofter, whose hands are red raw after a day collecting

whelks in freezing conditions. Once sorted by the first team of volunteers, they will scatter by tractor, van, bicycle or on foot to take the precious letters to six other houses where a new team will take over processing the letters and cheques into the sland's six home computers and answering them.

Five hours after the 300 letters have arrived, they have all been opened, answered and processed. This, then, is the community that a former laird once described as "dangerous". How right he was.

Thursday 14 November: Today Scruff is sitting at home in his caravan as it is too stormy to go to sea. Even though there are at least a dozen empty houses on the island, there are none for him to let on the long-term, although he hopes to move into a newly built housing asso-

ciation cottage soon.

Almost all incomers to the island have spent time living in 400 people are living in cara- a benevolent multi-millionaire vans in neighbouring Skye, and many leave the Highlands and Today, Maggie's team of Islands in despair after their how it was spent. first winter in a caravan.

To fill in the time. Scruff is

tearing the used stamps off today's batch of letters to sell them in aid of the appeal. He are in a war you have to go for will get 7p a hundred. Last year, bachelor Scruff received considerable coverage in the tabloid press after advertising in his local newspaper for a wife who could "cook, sew, mend lobster creeks and who ideally should own a small fishing boat with a low insurance". He asked all respondents to send a photograph. Of the boat. Scruff's latest girlfriend is now thinking of having a T-shirt printed with the words "I Didn't Apply to that Advertisement."

Friday 15 November: Over in Cleardale, the crofter Angus McKinnon is having his first

dram of the evening. He is a delightful man, intelligent and erudite, and he is the 12th generation to live in this lovely lace. His land, to him, is as

important as any of his limbs. Like several of the older generation of islanders, Angus has been worrying more than a little about what life would be like if the islanders manage to buy the island. He is used to a system in which the laird would take a good deal of the deci-sions that would affect his life. Like many, he thinks that in an ideal world it would be wonderful if Eigg was purchased by who would pour in money and

But there comes a time when you have to decide," he says, "and I have decided that this is like a war, and when you it with absolute conviction or you are never going to achieve anything." Angus is behind this move with all his heart and soul although he can't deny that he has his worries.

Saturday 16 November: Over in Kildonan Farm, the Carr family are watching the progress of the appeal with considerable interest. They have five children, all still being educated, and money is tight. Marie is a fifth-generation islander who gets up at six each morning to make the bread for her guesthouse, while Colin, her husband, is seldom at home

ewes and attending to duties such as the school run, the Calor gas supply service and being the local volunteer constable.

year will surely be better.

11-year-old daughter, Amy, received a late-night phone call saying that Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, would be dropping in by helicopter at seven in the morning to discuss mother already asleep in bed and father away visiting friends on the other side of the island, Amy thought that the best plan would be to leave a note beside her parents' bed telling them that some man called Michael Forsyth would be dropping in for breakfast.

Colin's observations on reading the note when he returned at two in the morning are not recorded, but are believed to have involved both religion and biology. The meeting was a groups. great success.

farm and learn Gaelic.

After a protracted legal battle, the Carrs have been unable

to get a lease on their farm for the seven years they have worked it. They say that they are exhausted and bored of promising themselves that next

A few weeks ago, the family's

Sunday 17 November: Crofter Davie Robertson is, in his own words, a "man of strong opinions". A nationalist to the core, his family were crofters before they moved to a difficult part of Glasgow. He has returned to

Today he tells me that he has

had "a great summer" working as a labourer and has achieved his three targets, "a new van, a holiday for the kids and money left over".

Davie says he is an ardent supporter of the buyout pro-posals, because the Gaelic will not be saved by television programmes or consultants or grants, it's too far gone. He says that the only hope for the Gaels is to do what they have been asking people to do for 200 years: give them back their land.

Tuesday 19 November: Daniel Morgan of Edinburgh University is doing his PhD on what has been happening on the Island of Eigg. For two and a half years he has been involved in evaluating every field, house and proposed business ven-ture. His opinion of the islanders' plan is straightforward: "I not only think that the islanders can run the place butter than any other landowner would. I know it as fact. They are well-disciplined, extremely intelligent, know the land and its problems better than anyone else, and are prepared to work for what would be seen on the mainland as low wages in order to achieve what I believe to be a just cause."

Wednesday 20 November: It's two o'clock in the afternoon, and Maggie has answered the phone with a trembling hand for the 300th time today. Most of the calls are from the world's press, asking her what's happening, but the only person she wants to speak to is the man

from the Lottery board. Eventually, the call comes. Shaking with emotion, she turns to the TV and radio crews and to Scruff and to Tasha and to Davie and to half the world and his wife who seem somehow to have crammed themselves into her front room. It looks like we've done it. A moment later, she turns back to go into her office for a few seconds alone.

It has been a long, hard struggle lasting for many, many years, and there's been too many committee meetings to count. But they are not home yet. The people of Eigg have a little over a week left to raise as their predicament. With her much funds from public sub-

they make their bid. If they do achieve their objective of buying the island. they know that they will be in for several years of negotiations among themselves as to how the island's many resources can be utilised. They don't want to run a commune, and current negotiations suggest that they will be leasing off certain businesses on the island to different independent people or

But what will happen if they don't manage to buy the island next week? What will happen if another Maruma or Keith Schellenberg decides that they want to own a little empire for a couple of million?

Maggie shrugs at the ques-tion. "We'll just do our best and keep on fighting for a better life. It's our only option.'

Homer took the pith, and Jesus put it back Rome together, and they



Miles **Kington**

((T can't tell stories," women often say to L me, "In fact, I can't even remember them."

That, in a nutshell, is why women's conversation is often so much better than men's. They are not telling stories. Nor are they telling them hadly, as so many men do. Still, it seems hopeless to try to stop men telling stories, so perhaps we ought to try to teach them to tell them better

With this in mind, I have pleasure in bringing you the text of this year's Jonathan Miller Memorial Lecture, which was given last month

by Professor Justin Apocrypha, head of the Anecdote Department at Milton Keynes University, and was entitled "Storytelling: A Historical Overview".

Once upon a time the storyteller was an honoured member of the community. A poet, a minstrel, a troubadour, a bard! Songs were stories, and stories were songs, and when the bard struck his lyre, he was telling the tribe their own stories, their own myths and legends!

Cries of "Get to the point, you old gas-bag!" and "Fast forward, somebody!"

"But today we have only a shrunken remnant of that great tradition. When an after-dinner speaker gets up and says, 'In this connection I am reminded of the story of the man who goes into a chemist's shop with a banana in both ears', is it possible to believe that this is the art of storytelling at its finest? Is this how the Latins and Greeks conversed? Did Roman storytellers get up

after dinner and say: There was once a Nubian, a Carthaginian and an Etruscan travelling to

were stranded far from anywhere when night fell, so they made for the mearest farm, where a farmer lived with his daughter ...'
"Do you think that is how

stories started in the old "How wrong can you be!
"In the old days people had stomach for longer stories. Think of the *fliad*. Think of the Odyssey!"

Cries of 'Yes, yes! We are thinking of it! What do we do "Do you think that Homer

cleared his throat after dinner and shyly said: 'In this connection I am reminded of the incident of the Trojan Wars', and then launch into a 10-hour saga? Of course he didn't! He told long stories and people expected it. Do you think the Old Testament prophets told snappy little stories? Of course not! They had mighty attention spans in those days. A storyteller would clear his throat and say, 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God', and you'd know you were in for a

long session. The man who dragged storytelling into the modern era was none other than

Jesus. Jesus had lots of good New Christianity, you might

say - and they were not all religious. "One of his best ideas was to keep stories short. Parables, he called them. He got in quick and told them fast and got out again. No banging around when Jesus told stories. Do you think that he cleared his throat and said, 'In this connection I am reminded of the story of the prodigal son' ...? Or

that he hogged the conversation by saying 'Do you know the one about the Good Samaritan? Oh, that's a great one! Anyway, there was this bloke, and he was going along the road when suddenly these thieves attacked him...? Of course not. Jesus was the first snappy storyteller of modern

Even Shakespeare himself is not exempt from bad storytelling habits. Do you remember the bit at the eginning of Macbeth when they are anxiously awaiting news of the battle and a bleeding sergeant comes in from the battlefield? 'How's the battle going? they ask. And what does he say? "Til tell you what he said,

Doubtful it stood As two spent swimmers that do And choke their an. The merciless Macdonald -Worthy to be a rebel, for to that

The multiplying villainies of Do swann upon liùn - from the Western Isles Of kerns and galloglasses is

supplied ..."

Supplied ..."

Tries of "What's he on about? Waiter, fetch a dictionary!"

"My point exactly! That is storytelling at its worst! Considering that the sergeant is bleeding to death you'd think he'd get to the point a bit quicker, but oh no! He drags it out and makes a pig's car of it! All it needs to make the story even longer is for the bleeding sergeant's wife to interrupt and say, There were lots of galloglasses, dear, but no kerns that I remember, because if anything can make a bad story worse, it is the interruption of a pedantic spouse. After all, none of the great storytellers was married! Homer, Jesus they all took good care never to be interrupted by a wife while telling a story ... More of this fascinating

lecture some other time. I hope.

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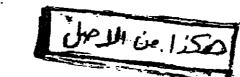
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the commentators

A tax-and-spend election fight doesn't add up

he tension in the air at Labour's press conference yesterday afternoon was palpable. William Waldegrave's attempt to cost Labour's programme marked, unmistakeably, the beginning of the end of the phoney war. So far, so good. But are we any wiser?

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FIRM TO THE

en.

Conservative costing opera-tions in 1986 and 1991 inflicted real damage on Labour, and in doing so, they helped to change the terms of the debate. If you think Labour has been right to ditch its past tax-and-spending addiction, then it follows that the Tories have already performed a democratic, perhaps even constitutional service. They have helped to save Labour from itself.

That is precisely why it is more difficult to make the charges stick this time. In 1992, Labour had two cast-iron spending commitments: to restore child benefit and oldage pensions to their 1979 levels. În 1996, it isn't like that

Many of the biggest of the supposed promises in the Tory dossier don't figure at all in Labour's policy document New Life for Britain. And Gordon Brown re-emphasised yesterday that that was the one and only holy writ. Indeed, one side-effect of the Waldegrave document may well be to strengthen Brown's hand in forcing his colleagues to get real. I suspect that several shadow ministers will read Brown's brutal rejection of specific Tory claims about their spending plans with some dis-

may. It is true, too, that Brown has repeated again and again that increases in spending will be met from existing resources. And nobody in the Shadow Cabinet has been brave enough to challenge that. What's more, Brown shows

every sign of meaning it.

To which the sharp young Tory backroom boys have an answer. OK, they say, it's heads we win, tails they lose. Maybe we can't whip up the fear that we did before the last election. And yes, maybe, given our own pretty formidable record of putting up taxes since 1992, we aren't going to be able to say, as Michael Heseltine did last time, that the election will be about three issues: tax; tax; and tax. But if the ' answer is that these aren't commitments at all, as Brown says, then what on earth have all these ien been doing around the country telling appreciative andiences what they want to hear? It plays (the Tories will say) right into our theme of Labour hypocrisy. If Labour isn't spendthrift any more, then it is two-faced instead.

The Tories have a point. It is all very well saying, as Brown did yesterday, that all statements not featured in New Life for Britain - including those of Tony Blair - are not party com-mitments. But then what are they for? If Andrew Smith, former Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, says to the Labour Party conference that Labour will be announcing new ini-



Donald *Macinture*

Labour won't put its spending policies on the table until after the vote, while the

(would that there was more, many voters will say) is a statement by Margaret Beckett made before Tony Blair even became leader. The Tory estimate for the cost of the national minimum wage of a tidy £3.7bn not only takes no account of Tories' claims potential savings in social security benefit but assumes that it are highly will be introduced at 50 per cent of male earnings, or more than £4 per hour - and therecreative fore that it will affect large parts of the public sector. In the

region of Britain can get high-speed links to the Channel Tun-

nel, either it presages a policy, or it is just warm words. If

David Blunkett cheers up a

teachers' conference by saying he will "consider" sabbaticals, is

something really going on? Or has he got his fingers crossed behind his back in a "don't

worry, Gordon, it's not a com-

Labour is understandably reluc-

tant to identify the savings that would be required to pay for them. So they can't be policies.

at least until after the election.

The result is an almost surreal-

istically bleak series of Nyets from Brown: £51m on the dis-

abled? Another fory lie: the dis-abled rights Bill will "involve"

the merging of existing £500,000

budgets. Yesterday's Tory document

certainly makes some spectac-ularly creative claims. The only

hard evidence for saying that Labour is going to increase

mitment" sort of way? These may be priorities. But

real world, Labour's minimum wage probably won't be high enough to include most publicsector workers. But in the virtual world of electioneering, Labour dare not say so. And the Tories can say what they like.

Isn't there a better way? As it happens, the Treasury adviser who invented, with spectacular success before the 1987 and 1992 elections, the modern Tory costing of Labour's programme thinks so. In a pamphlet for the Social Market Foundation, Andrew Tyrie suggests an independent fiscal policy committee which would consider both government and opposition tax and spending plans before elections and pronounce on them.

The result of such a process in 1997 might well expose an unmentionable truth: that two parties on tax and spending. It would certainly take a lot of steam out of the inter-party conflict on the issue and leave them looking for other things to talk about. The electorate might even be let in on some of the real choices that consenting political adults constantly discuss in private: should we tax child benefit? Would green taxes be sensible? Do we need the European Fighter Aircraft? And so on.

William Waldegrave spoke for the political classes yesterday, no doubt, when he said Tyrie's idea sounded "interesting" but that he doubted that it was "practical".



an the musical salon be back? It seems like centuries since it was commonplace for householders of breeding, tone and general poshness to invite their friends to hear some young Hungarian dynamo

play Chopin nocturnes and Liszt rhapsocies after supper. Readers of Joyce's story "The Dead", from Dubliners, will remember the salon run by the music-loving sisters which seemed, even in 1914, a pretty moribund ritual. But the home concert never actually disappeared.

In the past couple of years I've been to a few classical soirées in Notting Hill, put on by friends of rarified (and expensive) taste, and appreciated the evening's air of slightly determined sophistication. But I've never enjoyed one so much as on Saturday night. The scene was Douglas

Hitchhiker's Guide Adams's splendiferous pad in Islington. A cross-section of A-list types is crammed into an upper room: George Martin, the veteran producer of all the Beatles albums; Terry Gilliam, the crazed visionary director; Melvyn Bragg and Mariella Frostrup and Angus Deayton and Ed Victor and Salman Rushdie and Geoffrey Robertson QC.

and Kathy Lette and so forth. There was also a large American in a check shirt." beard and a trophy wife "Who's that?" I hissed. "Don't you know anything?" came the reply. "Paul Allen, Microsoft billionaire." He turned out not to be the only one of this category present. Later I worked out that the combined wealth of the room was in 11 figures

The guests piled into Adams's library and dived for the rugs. Great levellers, rugs: Lobbs brogues fought for space with Armani'd bottoms. Squillionaire deal-makers iostled with snave telly stars for a corner of comfy hessian

carnival barker from Southend, with slicked-back white hair and a scarlet waistcoat, turned out to be Gary Brooker, former voice and organ of Procul Harum. He sang a love song of staggering lewdness ("Shove me in your steaming vat / Make me spit like chicken fat") and a moving ballad based on the late-night shipping forecast, with lyrics by D Adams ("Dogger, Fisher, German Bight/Help me make it through the night") before doing the whole of "A Whiter Shade of

though, was Margo Buchanan, a green-eyed chanteuse in a little black number, who smiles like Lulu, sings like Maria Muldaur and has a bit of a way with an audience. She has these terribly slender hands, you see, and when she extends her amazingly long fingers at moments of emphasis, you ... But I fear I'm straying from the essentially musicological nature of this critique.

She has always stayed a backing singer, she told me, because she never fancied wiggling her bottom on stage and getting tarted up like a Spice Girl; a back bar, a crush and a dirty blues is more her line. She's probably right, as you sit in the library at this

It was like The Raft of the Medusa, only with cham-pagne. But then the music started and nobody cared any longer. A guitarist called Robbie McIntosh, looking like one of the more obvious villains in Crucker, played blinding instrumentals with his band, the Polygenes, on bass and cello.

A handsome, fiftyish stuff, looking around at Microsoft billionaires and the Pale" with abandoned verses and all.

the Republican The star of the evening, congressman in Orange County, California, a man who, when it comes to presenting a stiff upper lip to the world in the face of misfortune, makes King Lear look like Douglas Bader. Four years ago, he greeted the challenge of a Democratic woman for his gress seat by calling her and her supporters "lesbian spear-chuckers". Now he has been beaten in the Congress elections by another bloody woman, Loretta Sanchez, by a mere 765 votes.

Rather than just insult his hated rival, he simply refuses to go. "I will not concede," he said, "to an inarticulate. flaky, non-qualified person." Even if they declare Ms Sanchez the winner after counting all the out-of-town

cool salon and watch this

the Pink Floyd maestro.

crowned heads of Media

- must sound like. Mr

London boogieing quietly

together, you're convinced

this must be what heaven - or

at least a musicians' Valhalla

Richard Branson, whose new

'grown-up" record label, V2.

is launched next week, should

'm rather taken with the

behaviour of Bob Doman,

sign them up without delay.

seven-piece line-up (joined by

David Gilmour, doing one of

his seraphic guitars) doing its

Given this is a family newspaper, I will spare you the throbbing organs of the 77-year-old Ms Lessing

and immigrant votes, he ain't budging.
"It would be a travesty," he

opined, "to have someone who spent 22 years in the Air Force voted out of office by non-citizens."

It's the magnificent irrelevance of his argument that's so striking. It's like Mike Atherton refusing to go after having his middle stump demolished ("I'm sorry, but it would be a shame to have someone who's spent years playing for his county cricket side being voted off the field by a non-batsman"). Next time I get a ticket l shall tell the traffic warden: "It's a rank injustice, warden, that someone who spent 25 years on public transport should ...

Severyone, it's Bad Sex time once again. Auberon Waugh started up the Bad Sex Award four years ago, its purpose "to draw attention to crude, otiose or perfunctory use of sexual description in the contemporary novel, and to discourage it

"It's not for mept pornography, you see, but for badly handled, if that's the word I'm after, irruptions of smut in otherwise 'literary' novels. The shortlist is published in the new issue of Waugh's Literary Review, out today, and a fine haul it is too.

AA Gill, hapless author of the year's most abused novel. Sap Rising, is in, but he's among distinguished company: Salman Rushdie, Doris Lessing, J G Ballard, Ben Okri and Mexico's finest novelist, Carlos Fuentes, all feature as well.

Given this is a family newspaper, I will spare you the throbbing organs of the 77-year-old Ms Lessing, the vaginal aromas of ripe fruits" (Fuentes) and the "sweet gullies with their soft

underdown" (Ballard, and he's talking about armpits, actually), nor will I outrage your delicate sensibilities by lingering on what Mr David Huggins calls "my blob of Lo-Cal genetics".

I will, however, offer you my favourite entry, this charming passage from The Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans, which at least seems to show a bit of respect for the business of sex.

"He pulled the faded quilt from the bed and opened the sheets and she laid herself down and watched him take off his boots and socks and then his jeans and shorts. And he felt no shame nor saw any in her, for why should they feel shame at what was not of their making but of some deeper force that stirred not just their bodies but their souls and knew naught of shame nor of any such construct?

Delightful. It's that word "naught" isn't it? (Maybe Mr Evans thought it had something to do with "naughty".) And as you're trying to shake off the mental picture of Mr Robert Redford (who is to play the HW in the movie) removing his shameless shorts, the thought strikes you: is he ever going to take his shirt off? Or his vest? Or his hat? Maybe there should be a sequel: The Clothes-Horse Whisperer ...

The party's over for top Tories

he names of Tory MPs who are retiring at the election reads as if a census had been taken at Camelot. Twenty-eight knights of shire and suburb, 18 members of the Privy Council, nine also-rans and Steve Norris are to quit. That makes a total, so far, of 57 members of the 1922 Committee. A veteran or two will remain (providing they survive the election), including Sir Marcus Fox and Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith. What will such a purge do to the post-election

I was first elected to Parliament as MP for Rochester and Chatham in October 1959. The Tory party was led by Harold Macmillan, whose had teeth, shabby cardigan and elegant deviousness set the tone for a five-year Parliament. His necktie bore the stripes of the Brigade of Guards. Until the 1930s there was a phrase common in the Brigade, "to be as brave as a Macmillan". But in the early Sixties, when his government lost popularity, he stood in need of all his courage.

The run-of-the-mill Tory MP had had "a good war"; some still used their military rank. The party's backbench defence committee attracted a formidable body of military men. Today, there is not a soldier in the party. Forty years ago, the average Tory had gone into politics as an extension of his sense of social obligation. He did not seek office. He was content to serve, either in the Whips' Office, which in those days consisted of one-time adjutants of good regiments, or, more simply, as the party's ballast.

David Maxwell Pyfe (described by Macmillan as "the stupidest man I have ever met") once proclaimed that loyalty was the party's secret weapon. He was to be proved disastrously wrong. In fact, and in recent years, disloyalty has come to be the Conservative Party's not-so-secret

I have prints taken from two pictures of the House of Commons. The first, painted in 1960, and presented to the Prime Minister by the 1922 Committee as a gesture of thanks for winning the 1959 election, shows the Tory benches as black as a convention of undertakers. The uniform worn was black trousers, black, hand-made shoes and striped jackets. Ties, when they were not of an instantly recognisable stripe, were of City silver. In my picture a confident Macmillan is seen at the despatch box, lord of all he surveys. The old actor-manager was at his peak.
The second painting, done in the mid-Eight-



Win or lose, the election will be the end of a famous era, writes Julian Critchley, lamenting the new Conservative class

The new breed of Conservative combines some-thing of Steve Norris, a little of Edwina Currie man with the biggest feet in England. Sir Teddy ies, shows a very different picture. The under-

takers have given way to birds, if not of paradise, and a good deal of David Mellor. The Government backbenches are packed with hard-faced blue suits a lighter shade of pale, shoes, either young men flaunting their ideology, either in brown or grey. It is impossible to tell a Conser- favour of the untrammelled forces of the market, or of hostility to all things pertaining to

vative MP from a Labour colleague.

Were a third picture to be painted circa 1996.

It would owe more to Bacon than to Botticelli.

It would over more to Bacon than to Botticelli. They all seek office, or, if not, lucrative conTaylor and James Cran would, as one man, raise their tattered banner. Only Sir James Goldsmith

What will disappear with the election, whether or not the Tories win or lose, is idealism. The old One Nation Conservative will be in a small minority; the pro-Europeans, who wanted to build a New Europe with Britain enjoying a prominent place within it, will have retired to their Sunset Homes. We were the children of Hitler's war, we wanted to bring to an end the enmity between France and Germany which had been the cause of two catastrophic wars. We saw Europe as the only alternative to a steady political and economic decline. Not all of us were federalists (whatever that ill-used word might mean), but we were intelligent patriots, never nationalists. We despised populism, and sought civil harmony.

One has only to glance at the list of names of those who will quit politics to see how grave a loss their departure will entail. Douglas Hurd, David Howell, Kenneth Baker, Paddy Mayhew and George Walden, all of whom have striven to keep the ship afloat. It is particularly sad that Richard Ryder, until recently the Chief Whip, is to abandon politics. He suffers from a bad back. His career could have been a glittering one. At least his successor, Keith Simpson, is an intelligent moderate.

But Simpson is the exception to the rule. The Euro-sceptics, that party within a party funded in part by Lady Thatcher, have recently made great play with the "fact" that the bulk of the new Tory candidates are against a common currency. I have not been privy to their researches, such as they are, but I fear that they

are probably correct. A brief look at the names of those who will succeed fills me with gloom. Eric Forth will be returned for Chischurst. Oliver Letwin, a clever right-winger, will, in all likelihood, take the place of Sir James Spicer. Were the Government to be returned with a large majority, the newcomers would make up a New Model Army. But such a victory is hardly likely: we would do well to scrape home. Defeat on any scale would leave a disenchanted rump of Tories that would look either to Portillo or Redwood as its new leader. and by so doing, condemn a great party to 20 years in the wilderness. Which, I can only conclude, would be the best place for it.

Sir Julian Critchley is the Conservative MP for Aldershot. He, too. is retiring at the election.



Thousands of refugees are facing yet more hardship as they return to Rwanda without food, water or shelter. Thousands more remain scattered throughout Zaire. All of these people still desperately need our help. Clean water, food, medical supplies and shelter are

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business & city

Clarke warned against tax cuts as economy surges ahead

Diane Coyle **Economics Editor**

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was advised against cutting income tax in his Budget next week after a batch of figures yesterday showed the

delighted ministers, but makes the omist at City bank UBS. Government's tax and interest rate decisions increasingly delicate. A nerve to do what he should, and put tough Budget on Tuesday offers the up personal taxes?" said Martin best hope for avoiding higher mortgage rates, but a reduction in income tax is seen as a political necessity.

Consumer confidence this month has increased to its highest level for need for higher interest rates will bea decade. Retail sales continued on come much more urgent."

their strong upward trend in October after a dip the previous month. Mortgage lending jumped, new consumer loans returned to near-record levels, while total lending surged by more than £7bn during the month.

"The last thing the consumer economy romping ahead. needs is another shot in the arm from tax cuts," said Alex Garrard, an econ-

"Will Kenneth Clarke have the Weale, director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research and one of the Chancellor's independent advisers. "If not, the

Many City analysts now believe Mr Clarke will have to raise base rates again before the likely election date to avoid a further damaging disagreement with the Bank of England.

"The Governor will be pressing quite hard for another increase at the next meeting, and the Chancellor will

optimism about the state of the economy took overall consumer confidence to its highest since 1986, according to the regular GfK survey for the European Commission.

The pick-up in confidence during the past year has been greatest for 16-29 year olds and for men. The balance of optimists over pessimists climbed into positive territory, at 1 per cent, compared with minus 10

per cent a year ago.
The rising tide of "feel-good" have to give way in December or January," said David Walton of investment bank Goldman Sachs.

Yesterday brought unmistakable in September. "Rising high street in September." Rising high street evidence of the strength of consumer spending. A further improvement in spend and the confidence to spend it," said Angela Knight, economic secretary to the Treasury.

Higher sales of clothing accounted gain, despite a record one-month

were flat after a big drop the previous month.

Another third was due to higher food sales, recovering from their weakness earlier in the year. Furniture and carpet sales accounted for most of the rest of the increase. Total sales volumes were 4 per cent

higher than a year earlier, their fastest growth for two years. The strongest components in year-onyear terms were clothing and household goods.

The housing market also continued to thrive last month. New loans cent to £1.5bn during the month,

price increase pushed through by retailers. However, footwear sales adjusting for seasonal variation, and were more than three times higher than the same month a year earlier. The number of new loans approved increased by a third year-

The high street banks reported a 50 per cent increase in mortgage loans last month, although the level was only 5 per cent higher than a year earlier. The banks' other consumer lending jumped to £507m, near the summer's record level.

Lending to companies increased too, according to the British Bankers' Association. Securities dealers repaid money but a broad for more than a third of the month's by building societies rose by 27 per range of other companies increased

"This may well reflect a recovery in capital spending," said Adam Cole, an economist at brokers James

West Strain

Total lending to the private sector, which also includes lending by foreign banks, doubled between September and October to 17.4bn. There was a corresponding surge in M4, the broad measure of the money supply, whose annual growth rate climbed from 9.9 per cent to 10.3 per cent. The steady acceleration in broad money growth, although inflated last month by a somewhat bigger than usual impact of gilts repo transactions, is sure to alarm the Bank of England.

Comment, page 23

National Power plans **RECs supply venture**

National Power, the country's biggest generator, is in negotiations with three regional electricity companies and a leading supermarket chain to create a combined electricity supply business when the market is opened to compension in 1998.

Keith Henry, chief executive of National Power, said he expected to sign an agreement by next spring. The deal could involve the generator taking a direct equity stake in the supply company or agreeing a longterm alliance to sell electricity to the venture.

Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regula-tor, is expected to publish guidelines soon setting out his views on what role the generators should be allowed to play when the electricity supply market is liberalised.

PowerGen, the rival generator, is also talking to a number of Recs with a view to entering the supply market directly. Both National Power and PowerGen were blocked by the Government from buying Recs earlier

Mike Langley, ousted finance director of hand-held computer

maker Psion, eased the pain of

his imminent redundancy yes-

terday by exercising options

over shares in his former em-

ployer worth £1.5m. He immediately cashed in stock worth

more than £800,000 and still re-

tains a stake in the company

with a value of a further £1.5m.

Mr Langley, who remains

businesses of the Recs would from a US utility had cost the give both generators access not just to regional electricity mar-kets but all of Britain's 22 mil-

lion domestic customers.
"We are talking to Recs that are both still independent and part of larger groups. We don't want to go charging into the re-tail electricity market on our own," Mr Henry said.

Britain's biggest energy users have called for a radical overhaul of the system for regulating the privatised gas and electricity in-dustries. The Energy Intensive Users Group, which represents big industrial consumers like cement, glass, steel, paper and chemical firms, told MPs that a Commons select committee should be set up to monitor the regulators. It also said customers should

have an appeals mechanism to a competition commission. Separately, ICI, told the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee that Professor Stephen Littlechild at Offer and Clare Spotfiswoode at Ofgas should be replaced by three-strong panels of regulators reporting to a "regulatory overlord" to produce more balanced decision-making and greater consistency.

£1.5m balm for ousted Psion boss

He declined to name the its bankers, Schroders, during Recs that National Power was talking to or the supermarket defence against a potential bid group. However, Safeway has from the Southern Company of been rumoured to be interested in a deal to sell electricity.

of Southern Electric and its de-But a deal with the supply fence against a planned bid £194m.

company £57m. Of this, £52m relates to the exceptional loss National Power has taken on the 8 per cent stake it bought in its bid. It paid 960p a share compared with Southern's price of 615.5p on 30 September. The remaining £5m relates to

fees charged by advisers, mainly

the offer for Southern and the

Atlanta, which was also blocked by the Government.

success stories in recent years,

making share options awarded

more than three years ago ex-

On the back of the company's

successful Series 3A electronic

organiser, the shares have

soared from an equivalent of

under 29p in August 1993 to yes-

Mr Langley exercised op-tions over 330,669 shares at

prices ranging from 24.7p to 59p for a total outlay of £141,202.

terday's close of 451.5p.

tremely valuable

Mr Henry was speaking as
National Power disclosed that
National Power's profits for last year's attempted takeover

with the company while a spe-

cific project is completed, is to

be replaced as head of Psion's

finance function after 11 years

at the computer group. Having guided Psion through

its 1988 flotation and seen the

company grow from a £4m

business to one worth more than

£300m, he will be replaced by

his number two, Marina Wyatt,

a former Arthur Andersen ac-

Psion has been one of the

countant.

also down marginally at £251m Power's market share from 30 to 27 per cent following the Southern Electric at the time of £1.7bn sale of 4,000 megawatts of plant to the Hanson-owned Eastern Group. Its first half in 1995 also included an extra

week's trading.
The decline in UK profits was offset by a jump in overseas earnings from from £6m to £23m. The company is forecasting that its international businesses will contribute £70m in post-tax profits for the full year and £145m in 1997-98.

Pre-exceptional profits were

National Power has so far invested £900m in generating projects in Australia, Pakistan, the US, Turkey and China and is prepared to spend at least £800m more on a big overseas acquisition if the right opportunity presents itself.

A fifth of its 4,500 staff are based overseas where it bas interests in 7,500 megawatts of capacity compared with its 16,000 megawatts of UK generating

The company expects its UK market share shrink to 25 per the half-year ended September cent this year compared with 32

those shares were worth £1.49m

and he immediately sold

181,000 to raise £814,500. Fol-

lowing the disposal, Mr Lang-

ley retains a holding of 337,000

with Mr Langley last month in

what one analyst described as

a piece of "brutal realism".

David Potter, chairman, de-

scribed the parting as amicable but it was felt that Psion had

outgrown Mr Langley's capa-bilities as finance director.

Psion agreed to part company

shares, worth £1.52m.



C&W in talks with Telewest

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Cable & Wireless is holding informal discussions with Telewest, the cable television its recently announced £5bn

link-up between Mercury and four other UK cable operators. In what promises to be another hectic period of dealmaking under Dick Brown, the recently appointed chief exec-utive, Cable & Wireless is also

believed to have given itself a year to reduce its 58 per cent stake in the hugely lucrative Hongkong Telecom division as the colony approaches the handover of power to China.

A deal with Telewest would give Cable & Wireless Communications, the merged group,

preneur who developed shops

on London's Carnaby Street in

access to more than 600,000 extra phone customers and a potential 4.3 million homes and businesses in the South-east, the South-west the Midlands and the North.

Mr Brown is known to be keen to expand further the reach of the new cable group. as Mercury continues to show damage from its reliance on indirect access to residential customers through a special button on the telephone handset. Cable & Wireless yesterday disclosed a drop in Mercury's residential customer base, by 7 per cent to 716,000 over the last

six months. The creation of Cable & Wireless Communications, which includes the UK cable franchises of Nynex Cable-Comms, Bell Cablemedia and

A key job at the Berkeley Club is held by Alan Whitehead,

Mr Morley is adamant the

The notion was ridiculed yes-

Berkeley Playhouse will not be

the dirty mac brigade.

gain direct access to homes for shareholder in Telewest. the first time.

Mr Brown would only say yes-terday that Cable & Wireless "continues to talk to people as we have been all along". However, the discussions are also thought to have involved Comcast, another UK cable operator, which is also understood to have held separate merger talks with Telewest.

It is unclear whether an alliance with a merged Telewest-Comcast group would go beyond a joint marketing partnership to include some form of equity stake. Sources suggested Mr Brown may want to include the cable operators in a bigger deal involving One-2-One, the UK mobile phone company which is jointly owned by Cable

Videotron, enables Mercury to & Wireless and US West, a main

One suggestion is that he would be prepared to swap Cable & Wireless's long distance phone interests in the US for some of US West's shares in Telewest. This would allow the British group to maintain its majority stake in Cable & Wireless Communications.

Separately, the moves to reduce the stake in Hongkong Telecom underlines Mr Brown's determination to sort out the issue before next June.

Cable & Wireless vesterday revealed a 17 per cent rise in operating profits to £746m in the six months to the end of September. However, a one-off £199m boost to last year's figures meant headline pre-tax profits fell by 10 per cent to £734m.

Strip club teases investors with public share offer

City Editor

It promises to be one of the more risqué share issues of recent times, its success almost guaranteed by the irresistible combination of sex and money. Britain is to get its first publicly quoted "lap dancing" club. From next May, the Berkeley

Playhouse will open in the heart of London's Mayfair district, with a troupe of 150 girls. For £10 they will perform an erotic dance "in your lap".
"It going to be the Playboy
Club of the late 1990s," pledges

the club's spokesman. Peter Moriey. "This is the first club of its kind in England and promises to be a very sexy investment." The Berkeley Club is raising £2.1m through the Enterprise

market, though no date has

ment of £5,000 (£1 a share), for which investors gain free mem-bership to the club. An outlay of £10,000 secures free life

to bring the club to the Ofex membership. Otherwise private membership costs £200, or £500 for corporate deals. There is a minimum invest-

most dramatic stock market At yesterday's closing price

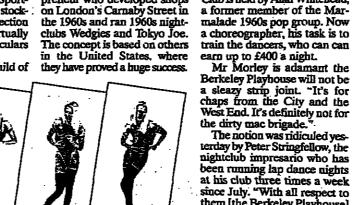
The company is attempting to maintain a sense of decorum with its investment material, though its prospectus features page numbers illustrated with

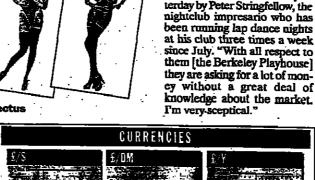
various stage of undress. Sporting a fishnet bodysuit and stockings in the introductory section on page two, she is virtually naked by the listing particulars

The club is the brainchild of

the 1960s and ran 1960s nightclubs Wedgies and Tokyo Joe.

pictures of a blonde "dancer" in John Paul, a nightclub entre-





Page-turner: A blonde 'dancer' helps illustrate Berkeley Playhouse's assets in its prospectus Investment Scheme and plans STOCK MARKETS

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FTSE 350	1974.20	-6.00	-0.3	2022.10	1816.60	3.90
FTSE SmallCap	2159.80	-0.62	-0.0	2244,36	1954.06	3.16
FTSE All-Share	1948.57	-5.51	-0.3	1994.54	1791.95	3.85
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lakyo	21189,96	+233.78	+1.1	22666.80	19734.70	0.77†
Hang Kong	13167.16	+110.23	+0.8	13167.16	10204.87	3.17†
Frankfurt	2774.50	+10.41	+0.4	2795.80	2253.36	1.67†

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Airbus and Boeing to split \$3bn order

Michael Harrison London

and David Usborne New York

Air France, the ailing statea sleazy strip joint. "It's for chaps from the City and the West End. It's definitely not for owned carrier, yesterday averted a political row by splitting a \$3bu (£1.8bu) aircraft order between Boeing of the US and Europe's Airbus Industrie.
The French transport minister, Bernard Pons, had wanted

Air France to buy exclusively from Airbus, in which the French have a 37.5 per cent stake, but was overfuled by Prime Minister Alain Juppé.

The airline will buy 10 Boeing 777 aircraft and 10 longrange Airbus A340s. It has taken out options to buy a further 10 777s and five more A340s.

Separately, American Airlines is set to announce a \$6bn order today for 100-plus planes from Boeing. American, which is expected to merge transatlantic operations next year with British Airways, will use the order to revamp its fleet significantly. The carrier is expected to sell its fleet of MD-11 widebodied jets to Federal Express, the courier company, and to retire several ageing Airbus, Fokker and Boeing 727 aircraft.

The Boeing aircraft for Air France will be powered by GE90 engines built by General Electric of the US and Sneema of France. The 777 order replaces an order to buy 15 Boeing 767s and 737s which dated back seven years but which was frozen in 1994 after Air France ran into financial problems.

Air France already operates Boeing 737s, 767s and 747 Jumbos jets. Although Mr Pons had wanted the latest order to exclude Boeing, Christian Blanc, the airline's chairman, had to stick with Boeing for part of the order, otherwise would have forfeited cash deposits made on the original Boeing order.

ne original Boeing order.
The Airbus deal, meanwhile. consists of only five new orders since it includes five A340-200s that Air France announced it was purchasing in June.

The unveiling of the American Airlines order with Boeing was contingent on a vote expected yesterday from leaders of America's pilots' union to put a new labour contract to its membership. The promise of a dramatically modernised fleet was thought to have helped conclude talks between the union and management.

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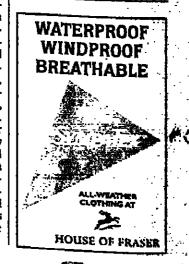
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'Public finances are in a long-term mess and this is precisely the wrong point in the economic cycle

to give another boost to consumer spending power'

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Clarke needs to do some juggling on his tightrope Kenneth Clarke, not a man ever likely to commit himself to the disciplines of the to look forward to, it would be perverse to hard to find excuses for reversing the process Lawson diet, cuts an unlikely figure as a

tightrope walker. But that is his task during the next six months, up to the presumed election date. The economy could scarcely be turning out better for the Government, as yesterday's retail sales figures underlined Consumer confidence, a key indicator of voting intentions, has returned to its highest level since 1986, in Nigel Lawson's own pre-diet days. But the usual negative consequences of a boom, whether mini or maxi, will not become apparent until after the election. Both inflation and the trade deficit are certainly likely to climb but are unlikely to reach embarrassing proportions until the next government is installed.

Mr Clarke has two problems, however.
The first is the received wisdom in his party
that a reduction in income tax is a political necessity. The Conservatives have promised a 20p basic rate and have to keep moving towards it. Otherwise, there is a danger that Labour's "22 tax increases since 1992" campaign will hit target. Reductions in Thesday's Budget will also put the Opposition on the spot, for the Government will certainly challenge Labour to vote against tax cuts

The problem is that there is not a shadow of doubt that this would also be bad economics. The public finances are in a longterm mess and this is also the wrong point in the economic cycle to give another boost to consumer spending power. With higher | announced will not take effect until April,

put even more money in people's pockets.

The second difficulty is posed by the fact that we all know now what the Governor of the Bank of England thinks ought to happen to interest rates - and that he is a pretty good, if tough, judge of the Chancellor's conduct of monetary policy. In the days before the publication of minutes of their meetings, a Chancellor hoping to postpone a difficult decision to a more convenient date would have been able to do so. Mr Clarke will face strong and public pressure from the Bank to raise base rates again within the next month or two, unless he delivers a particularly tough Budget. The Bank will spell out that if he does not agree, it will mark the death of the Government's own inflation target. This is not what somebody who has made a virtue of ostentatious economic pru-

dence wants said about him. Can the Chancellor stay on the tightrope? The prudent thing would be a fiscally neutral Budget on Tuesday. He might then get away with doing nothing on interest rates too, coasting to the election on the strength of the economy. There is another alternative, though not a particularly honest one.
This would be a Budget giveaway which
stayed just about within the bounds of credibility but which the Chancellor has no real intention of putting into practice. It is easily forgotten that most of the measures to be immediately afterwards.

But perhaps the most compelling option is the rolling programme, the promise of jam tomorrow, the hope-postponed type of Bud-get. This allows the Chancellor to do little for the time being but promise much in future, conditions allowing of course. It's hard to teach a politician new tricks.

Steering clear of the auction room

Some of our best-known investment banks appear to be refusing to join the move to-wards cheaper underwriting commissions for rights issues. It might be just caution, or a reasoned commercial decision on the part of BZW, SBC Warburg and most of the big US houses not to join a price war. But a much deeper argument seems to be going on behind the scenes.

Kleinwort Benson yesterday launched another rights issue incorporating a partial auction of the sub-underwriting, a £45m fund raising for Biocompatibles. With two pioneering issues by Schroders earlier this month this brings the grand total of the new auctions to five. But so far, nobody other than Schroders and Kleinwort - with Merrill Lynch coming in jointly on Biocompatibles - seems willing to come into the auc-

rights issue for Azlan on Tuesday. BZW too has made polite noises about encouraging flexibility, but in its handling of a couple of recent share issues, including the Invesco rights, it has stuck to fixed commissions. Some institutions even suspect a deliberate attempt to undermine the move to new flex-

ible commission rates. You don't have to look far for motive in all this. Institutional enthusiasm for innovation - even though it costs them money in lower commissions - stems from the belief that there is a serious risk of the OFT and MMC delving into the whole question of capital-raising, thus whittling away shareholders' pre-emption rights, a closely related issue. And who in the City wants to see preemption rights eroded, replacing rights issues with US-style bought deals? Why none other than some of the big integrated invest-ment banks that have failed to come into the

Darwin's theory of evolution

Here's an odd one. A company which hardly anyone knows anything about, except that it's in biotechnology and eats money, buys a company even fewer people know anything about except that it's much the same – a loss making biotech hopeful. | bag of jelly beans does not mean Chin-Fortunately it has Bill Gates as a shareholder | science is on to a winner.

There was no auction in the SBC Warburg | so the shares move briskly ahead. That in a nutshell summarises reaction in the City yesterday to the acquisition by Chiroscience of Darwin Molecular.

Darwin has come along just as investors were groping their way to an understanding of chiral chemistry, the way in which Chiroscience chemically purifies existing drugs to reduce their side effects. By comparison, the activities of the US group rank as science fiction. The company searches for genes to discover why people are prone to certain diseases and boils down huge volumes of data using huge computers to uncover new tar-

gets for drugs.
What it's actually worth is anyone's guess. Chiroscience thinks \$120m, more than doubling the \$55m Mr Gates and his pals in the venture capital industry have pumped into the company over the past two years. But then in stock market terms this seems more a case of backing the man irrespective of the company and when good old Bill's there with a ready quote, it hardly matters. "The deal is the right move for both of them." he enthuses. So that's all right then.

A word of warning, however, Mr Gates may be the most talented entrepreneur of his generation, but he's also someone with a multi-billion dollar fortune to burn. Just because Mr Gates has chosen to bet his money on a company with about as much to do with the theory of natural selection as a

Buoyant Granada set to launch sale of motorway sites

Media Editor

Granada, the media and leisure conglomerate, will next week launch the sale of its Welcome Break motorway service sites, by issuing a sales memorandum to between 40 and 50 potential

The chain of 21 service sites could fetch about £300m, and is believed to have attracted expressions of interest from petrol and food retailers, as well as brewing giant Whitbread.

The news emerged as Granada announced sharply higher pre-tax earnings for the 1995-96 fiscal year, including for the first time results from Forte. takeover battle early this year.

Profits soared 37 per-cent to £480m in the year ending 30 September, which included eight months of Forte earnings. Gerry Robinson, Granada's chairman, added that a midbattle promise to enhance Forte's profitability by £100m was "well on track," with £40m in enhancements already made. The dividend has been set at 13p

for the year, up 11 per cent. Charles Allen, the group's

excellent results, and they prove that we have done what we said we would do following the Forte takeover." The key moves have been to reduce overheads, restructure the hotels operations from 11 to three main units, and consolidate the catering businesses, including roadside restaurants, by introducing

new menus and higher prices. The company has also embarked on a large-scale disposals programme, aimed at reducing net debt, which stood at £3.5bn at the end of the year, giving gearing of 322 per cent. Earmarked for sale, in addition to Welcome Break, are the Exclusive hotels and a stake in the Savoy Group. The first of the the hotels group won by Grana- Exclusives, the Hyde Park, was da following a bitter £3.9bn sold for £86m this week to a unit of Jardine Matheson.

cluding the company's extensive media side, were sharply ahead year on year. Granada Media Group, which includes the two ITV licences, Granada and London Weekend Television, reported operating profits of £163m, up 17 per cent. The restaurant and catering business, not counting the roadside sites of Little Chef and Happy Eater inherited from Forte,

forma basis. The rental operations were only 3 per cent up year on year, however, reflecting the mature nature of the

Despite the figures, shares in Granada dropped 10p to 882.5p yesterday, but analysts said the decline was linked to persistent rumours on the Continent about a possible takeover bid by Granada for troubled hotelier Accor. "We have not approached Accor, and have no in-tention to do so," Mr Allen said

yesterday. Mr Allen also said for the first time publicly that Granada had no intention of bidding for Manchester United, the Pre-- mier League football club, despite persistent rumours that Granada was among the potential predators.

in such a one-off purchase, it just doesn't make any sense, Mr Allen said.

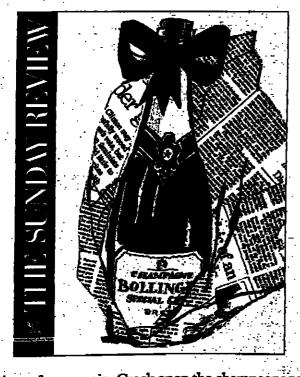
Mr Robinson conceded that the market might begin to ques-tion the "conglomerate" status of Granada, in light of recent high-profile demerge

Yes, you could do it. We currently have two large businesses, operating in their own right. But we have no plans to do so was ahead 25 per cent on a pro-

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It's that time of year again. Crack open the champagne with Richard Ehrlich and his panel, who test 25 bottles of bubbly as part of our 12-page food and drink special. Plus, festive recipes from top chefs

At the height of her power, Margaret Thatcher rang Lord Wyatt of Weeford almost every day. He dines with Rupert Murdoch. Is he one of the most influential men of our age or a mere gadfly? Geraldine Bedell examines the evidence

WATERPRO



Michael Flatley made his fortune and Irish dancing fashionable with his high-stepping skills. Then everything turned sour. We talk to both sides in the Riverdance row

Phis: Blake Morrison, Helen Fielding, Andy Beckett

THIS WEEKEND'S

business

emerger was not a winning formula at Courtaulds

The urge to demerge has suddenly become unfashionable and it is not hard to see why when pioneers of hard to see why when pioneers o some seven years after doing the

Cutting away its currently troubled textiles arm in 1990 has not saved the chemicals rump of the business from a vicious business cycle. Courtaulds went through the mill last year as key raw material prices doubled or tripled. They have since come back to normal, but although acrylics are now definitely in the recovery ward, viscose demand is still in the doldrums, with only the faintest glimmerings of a

pick-up as yet. But the slippage in Courtaulds' profits from £67.8m to £64m in the half-year to September is more complicated than that. Stripping out disposals, underlying operating profits from continuing businesses

were up £5m at £80m. Despite the problems of viscose. the fibres and chemicals division still recorded a 13 per cent increase in operating profits to £27m and there are clear indications that things are moving in the right direction for the

The main coatings and sealants

the genre, like Courtaulds, have sitions in aircraft coatings and done so little for shareholder value sealants should allow it to cash in next year on the current surge in aeroplane orders. Boeing alone, where Courtaulds is the dominant supplier, expects business to soar by 55 per cent.

But the real story at Courtaulds remains a long-term one. The Far East consistently notches up profits growth of 15 per cent as the group continues its drive into the region, with businesses like marine and powder coatings and toothpaste tubes all building new facilities there. Next year they will be joined Courtaulds' Tencel "wonder fibre", decade of development costing around £300m.

spending up at around £200m a year for some time, but Tencel will be making at least £60m by the beginning of the new millennium, which is roughly the profits on viscose Courtaulds has lost since the early 1990s, according to analysts' estimates. If viscose is back by then too, 10 per cent margins may become a reality again.

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN year would put the shares on a forward multiple of 20. That fully values the prospects, while viscose

to act as a drag on the shares. Unigate milks **BSE** scare

and currency worries will continue

by the third production plant for Over the past two years, both Unigate and Northern Foods have now showing its first profits after a gone through the painful process of adjusting their businesses to cope with the rapid decline of doorstep The £150m plant will keep capital milk deliveries. Plants have been closed, provisions taken and re-dundancies made. But as the milk industry starts to emerge from the dark days, it seems Unigate holds the stronger position.

There are two main reasons. One is that Northern is more exposed to the weaker commodity prices which have hit the industry this year. While Unigate has been

Meantime, profits of £140m this able to use excess butter fat to produce cheese and other dairy products, Northern has been unable to

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

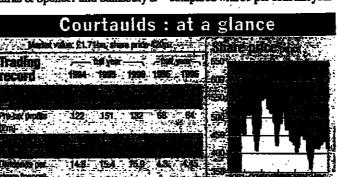
do so and has had little option but

benefited from the BSE scare while sion saw profits fall 27 per cent to Northern's prepared foods division £21.6m. took a £3m profits hit on BSE in the first half. It has had to produce a raft strategy is to move closer to its main of new, non-beef, ready-made meals supermarket customers which acfor supermarket customers such as count for 43 per cent of group sales

These two factors held back pre-exceptional profits to £57.7m. up just 1 per cent in the six months to September. It was a tale of two to sell its surplus at weaker prices.

Then there is the BSE factor. As a large pork producer, Unigate has cent to £43m while the dairy divi-

In both divisions, Northern's Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's. compared with 39 per cent last year.



Assuming full-year profits of £129m, the shares, up 2.5p to 198p yesterday, trade on a forward rating of 12. Hardly expensive but with little prospect of a share buy-back or acquisition, the more lowly rated Unigate looks a better bet.

Tenancies cast off dull image

The City has fallen so heavily in love with the managed pub chains run by companies such as Regent Inns and JD Wetherspoon that it has had little time for the industry's country cousins in the business of operating tenanted estates. Compared to the heady ratings they have given to managed groups, investors have been prepared to pay a rela-tively stingy multiple of earnings for

Slowly, however, it is dawning on some that tenancies have their attractions and, as a low-risk way into the sector, they have gained some support in the past year since on a dangerous acque Enterprise Inns and Century Inns treadmill. Good value.

The thinking is that as the supermarket giants grab market share.
Northern can grow with them.

According to that as the superreported figures yesterday, has been the less exciting investment of holders a return of more than 30 per FTSE 3962. FTSE 1400. FTSE 1974.

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cent over the 12 months. Pre-tax profits in the year to September of £7.1m were 23 per cent higher than in the comparable period, struck from a 13 per cent rise in sales to £24m from its portfolio of 342 pubs, mainly in the Northeast and Yorkshire. A final dividend of 4.5p made a total for the period

since flotation of 5.75p. Tenancies have developed a dull image, thanks largely to the years during which the big brewers used them as eash cows to fund investment in their managed pubs. As a result they were underinvested and often shabby. Properly run and maintained, however, tenancies can be high-margin, stable businesses.

Everything has its price and at 165p, unchanged yesterday. Century's shares trade on a prospective price-earnings ratio of under 11. That is cheaper than Enterprise and a snip compared to the glitzier managed chains whose multiples of more than twice as much are in danger of putting managements on a dangerous acquisition-led

VCI warns of slowdown in trading rights to Manchester United's Patrick Tooher book and video publishing in-

VCI, the video distribution group which recently attempted to make an audacious £300m bid for Manchester United. yesterday warned about a slow start to its key Christmas sell-

ing period.
In a frading statement, VCI said: "Early indications are that the critical Christmas shopping season has been slower than the last year to gather full momention in the markets in which we operate."

trading update took analysts by surprise. "It was premature for them to put out a statement," said one. "The bulk of VCI's sales come in the final six weeks of the year."

Although scheduled, the

VCI's shares, as high as 349p in July, closed 13p lower at 275.5p as brokers trimmed their profit forecasts from about year. In 1995 VCI made pre-tax

profits of £8m on sales of £77m. VCI, chaired by Michael Grade who is also chief executive of Channel Four, said it would issue an update of Christmas trading in January "as VCI publishes videos ranging

from the Men Behaving Badly comedy series to Thomas the Tank Engine and Riverdance -

The Show.

terests for £2.4m.

Four months later HSBC, VCI's advisers, approached United's chairman, Martin Edwards, to discuss a possible £300m bid for the club.

Talks continued for about a month, but they were overtaken by events when the bid premium VCI was prepared to pay. disappeared as United's share price soared on news of a fouryear deal worth £670m between the Premier League and BSkvB. the pay-TV broadcaster.

Last night analysts suggested VCI needed the deal with United to improve the company's carnings visibility.

VCI is a product-led com-

pany where profits can disappear overnight," said one. "If anything, it needs something more stable."

Shares in VCI, a manage-Prestwich Holdings in 1989. were floated on the stock market two years ago at 150p, valu-

ing the company at £58m. Under chief executive Steve Ayres, VCI has avoided the video rental market, which is in long-term decline following the advent of cable and satellite television, to concentrate on the sell-through side of the business.

It is now the UK's leading independent video, book and In January it bought the audio publishing group.

Chubb in £104m Australian deal

Chubb Security, the alarms and electronic security group chaired by Sir Ernest Harrison. is expanding in Australia, buy-ing the access control and fire protection division of James Hardie Industries, a building materials supplier, for A\$220m (£104m), writes Patrick Tooher. Chubb shares rose 7p to 325_5p after the group said it expect-ed the deal to enhance earnings

in the first year.

The deal is part of Chubb's stated ambition to expand in the Australasia region where the market for electronic alarms and closed-circuit television is growing faster than in

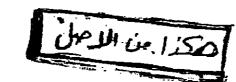
relation to the development of the business in Australia, Asia/Pacific and world-wide." Sir Ernest said.

Chubb, which has almost £90m in the bank, will fund the deal from a combination of cash resources and bank facilities. The acquisition is the latest in a series of deals involving Chubb in the Australasian region, which accounts for more than a quarter of group sales, and its second in a year with James Hardie.

ith James Hardie.
In December Chubb paid Hardie's security £5.3m for Hardie's security monitoring and manpower division. Six months later it bought MSS Security, an Aus-"The acquisition is of major strategic value for Chubb in pany, for £19m cash. tralian electronic security com-

	2 rayomut	Pre-tax £	EP\$	Dividend
Brunel Holdings (F)	168m (173m)	-16 3m (8.34m)	-17.8p (13.7p)	0.5p (0.5p) "
Cable & Wireless (I)	3.40bn (2.99m)	734m (815m)	16.1p (19.6p)	3.4p (3.08p)
Centary less (F)	24 Om (21.6m)	7 13m (4.88m)	15.7p (13p)	5 75p (-)
CHIL Microsystems (I)	8.39m (8.75m)	0.12m (0.73m)	1 35p (3 38p)	·()
Courtantés (J)	1.07bn (1.15bn)	64.0m (68.0m)	10 Sp (11.3p)	4 45p (4.3p)
Granswick (I)	79.1m (66.5m)	1.84m (1.46m)	8 8p (7 2p)	30 (5 6b)
FK) (I)	459m (429m)	51.4m (39.4m)	6 1 1p (5 2p)	
Granada Breup (F)	3.82bn (2.38bn)	480m (351m)	42.3g (39.1p)	3 1p (2 2p)
Greenway Holdings (1)	6.08m (5.56m)	-0.08m (0.56m)	-0 28p (1 96p)	8.765p (7.9p)
CE Heath (1)	61.5m (82.1m)	4.62m (10.3m)	3 1p (4p)	0.5p (0.5p)
Katamazao Cemputer (I)	35.2m (32.4m)	2.3m (2.0m)	3 72p (3 60p)	1.50 (30)
McCarthy & Stene (F)	61.0m (67.3m)	11 Om (9.2m)	7p (7 2p)	1.2p (1.1p)
Northern Feeds (1)	941m (967m)	59.0m (53 1m)		2-3p (2p)
Refex (†)	0 08m (-)	-0.21m (-)	7 48p (6.55p)	3.6p (3.5p) .
Sonthnews (f)	18.4m (13.2m)	3.18m (2.03m)	-3 09p (-)	III (4)
TBI (I)	26 0m (14.3m)	9 7m (4.24m)	11 3p (8.49p)	2.25p (1.76p)
Tiusley Rober (I)	24 9m (21.3m)	1 8m (1.5m)	2.52p (2p)	-+1.
UK Land (1)	- (-)		3.9p (3.7p)	0 9a (0 75a)
Wagon Industrial (f)	191m (193m)	0 67m (0 59m)	7p (6p)	唯(-)
	(t) - Figures 4 mont	11 tm (12 Am)	13 54p (16 97p)	76 (7p)

In the edge onversauoi Ine of the oneliest places on earth. The Economist



market report/shares

FISE 100 3962.8 -15.3

FTSE 250 4400.2 -0.1 **FISE 350** 1974.2 -6.0 SEAQ VOLUME

723.2m shares.



Privatised firms thumb their nose at a windfall tax Windfall tax what windfall tax? Judging by the performance of the privatised groups, the Labour Party's threat to int the seemingly over-rich cre-ations of the Tories has already

been dismissed by the stock market. Railtrack, the most aston-ishing success of them all, kept on its own express track, climb-ing 23p to 344p, another peak. British Energy, ahead of today's results, added 2.5p to a 135.5p record and PowerGen was at one time 5.5p higher. ScottishPower ended 4.5p up

With other privatisation shares under the windfall shad-

Takeover hopes are, of course, an influence. London Electricity fell only 6.5p to 658.5p on the disclosure talks

with Entergy, the US group, had broken down. Other bidders are expected to appear for London and the other remaining English electricity distributors, Southern and Yorkshire, before next year's election. More corporate action is also deemed likely in the water sector.
As well as bid expectations

As well as the expectations the market is captivated by the generous dividend yields on of-fer, the prospect of steady profit increases and the rich assets often involved.



MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

to the vast amount of surplus land which could be sold. The shares were shunted onto the market at 190p in

perilously balanced. PowerGen ended 1p firmer at 578.5p The shares lost some of their exuberance as the don closed, by nearly 900 promised share have back failed to materialise. It should occur

The rest of the market remained transfixed by the Budget. More New York records were ignored, pointing to the their partly-paid form. On oc-casions the flotation looked decoupling which is becoming increasingly pronounced. Since the start of August Footsie has risen 228 points; the Dow Jones Average, as Lon-

The latest Whitehall statis-

shares 3p to 93p with excited ing. The satellite television statalk of a bid, probably from tion, which has been weak

vulnerable to a strike. Its trading has been weak and a breakup bid could be rewarding. WH Smith rallied 11.5p to

439.5p as a rumoured cautious trading statement failed to appear. The shares have per-formed poorly since peaking in the summer at 532p. The re-tail chain is being revamped by Bill Cockburn, who used to run the Post Office. Last month he disclosed a like-for-like sales increase of 4 per cent in the four months to the end of

Kingfisher. since hitting a 696.5p peak last month, improved 7.5p to 526p. Prudential Corporation slipped op to 45op, seemingly unimpressed by what are said to be bullish London presentations by its US off-shoot, Jackson National Life.

Jarvis Porter, the packaging group, rose 12.5p to 230.5p on vague speculative interest. The shares have moved off a 186.5p

low since last mouth. Vodafone, the cellular telephone group, lost an 8.5p gain

Scruttons' ambition to concentrate on engineering and shipping will lead to the flotation of its reservity business. The shares rose 5p to 320p, against 290p when last week Jacobs disclosed its bid intentions towards Ropner, a mini conglomerate which has 29 per cent of Scruttons.

TRoxboro, the hard pressed electronic equipment group, surged 21p to 159p as TT Group, an aggressive conglomerate, said it had snapped up an 8.46 per cent interest. to end unchanged at 254p as two directors cashed in share options. Tuesday's better-than-must be vulnerable to a

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Why taxing consumption makes sense in the age of technology

The only really important taxes on income, including inquestion about next come from capital. The system that has developed is a bit of Tuesday's Budget is how a hybrid, adjusted to cope with much the basic rate of income tax will fall - or so you might various practical difficulties. judge from the acres of dis-It does not consistently tax incussion. It is a sign of how im-poverished the Government's come or spending. For instance, it is not practicable to calculate a person's income thinking on taxation has become that this one rate has beaccruing from their employer's contribution to a pension come the only aspect of policy scheme, so these are not subit thinks has any political relevance in a juvenile "mine's jected to the income tax smaller than yours contest. regime. Likewise, in some Tax reform has not been on countries it has been consid-

ered undestrable or impossible this Chancellor's agenda, but to tax capital gains at the same there are serious questions his rate as income successor ought to start think-The result has been a system ing about long before he opens the traditional red box in the House of Commons a year that taxes different types of in-come from capital at different House of Commons a year rates, causing economic dis-tortions. The best-known exfrom now. A thought-provok-ing paper on the shape the tax system will have to take next ample of the consequences is the fact that debt-financed incentury sets out some of the vestment is liable to less tax most important issues.* Prethan equity-financed investsented recently by Mervyn ment, and is sometimes sub-King, chief economist at the Bank of England and a hot tip sidised by the tax system. for even greater things under Tax reform during the 1980s a Labour government, it argues

posed by growing international

Mr King, the co-author with

John Kay on the most influ-

links between economies.

has concentrated on trying to find a consistent and broad dethat there are three trends that will transform tax policy. The first is that taxes will finition of the tax base and applying the same low rate of tax as far as possible to all forms have to shift from income to consumption: for individuals, of income. This will probably that means taxing what we spend via something like VAT continue. However, Mr King argues that in the longer term the system will evolve away rather than what we earn through income tax. The secfrom income tax and towards a consumption tax. This is a ond is that information techtrend that has clearly got under way in the UK with the Connology will make it harder to monitor what taxes should be paid. The third is the pressures servatives' emphasis on inon national tax systems imcome tax reductions.

Other countries are likely to

DianeCoyle

Tax reform has not been on this Chancellor's agenda, but there sumption tax is that the things

are serious questions his successor ought to think about before he opens

the red box follow. The ever-closer integration of the world economy means taxes on capital income are increasingly hard to enforce. It might even become impossible the more footloose investment becomes. The downward pressures on per-sonal income tax are less, but already exist for the mobile cor-

Trend towards consumption tax

UK tases as % of total receipts

the political agenda, anyway. The added attraction of a tax

on consumption is that it applies to observable transactions rather than a calculated definition of income or profit. In simpler times, applying an income tax was not too tricky. Most earners worked for big companies and stayed longer in their jobs. Companies did a lot of the work for the Inland Revenue. Furthermore, family structures ere more stable and less varied than they are now. Even so, some of the world's biggest computer systems are those that were designed for the ad-ministration of tax.

we are spending money on are becoming less and less tangible

and therefore harder to monitor - the more important information technology and services become in the economy. Italy finds it hard enough to col-lect the VAT on goods in the shops. Italians are required to hold on to their till receipts in case a VAT inspector is lurking outside the shop door.
It is much harder to moni-

tor sales of anything over the Internet, satellite television transmissions and any other "dematerialised" economic activity. It will be harder still when retail customers can pay in "real time" via computer. Tech-nology could signal the end of money as a means of payment. When value added can pass

porate executive. Reducing the down a telephone line or income tax burden is high on bounce off a satelline and money can move back along the same routes, Mr King writes, "the idea that Microsoft or BT may have a more important role in payment systems in the future than Midland or Barclays Bank is not one to be dismissed lightly". He concludes that govern-

ments might have to get closely involved in the regulation of information technology if they are to retain a broad tax base. However, his arguments point to another solution. That is taxing spending on precisely those things that can not dematerialise; and licensing so that the responsibility for tax collection is effectively devolved to an or-ganisation closer to the action than the government can get.

Examples of taxes linked to spending with an unavoidable physical presence are road tolls, petrol taxes, vehicle excise duty, landfill tax and so on. William Pitt's tax on windows would be another example. So would domestic rates or council tax. So is the TV licence. To the credit of the Liberal Democrats, their pre-budget document suggests placing greater reliance on some of these, although for reasons of environmental protection rather

than technological necessity.

It is not difficult to imagine a world where all the tax revenues to build roads are raised directly by auctioning licences to claim tolls to a private company. This is a direction for tax reform which could be shaped to appeal to a Conservative govmment as much as a greentinged Liberal Democrat one. The shape of the tax system is a political issue as well as a technical one. And the political dimensions are far broader than the question of whether Tuesday will see another penny lopped off the basic rate.

* "Tax Systems in the 21st Century", by Mervyn King, presented to the 50th Congress of the International Fiscal Association in Geneva, September 1996.

Hill Samuel prepares to go in to bat at Lord's

The merchant bank Hill Samuel may have disappeared when Lloyds Bank bought its owner, TSB, but Hill Samuel Asset Management is still very much alive and kicking, says Rob Page, marketing director of HSAM. And to underline this,

HSAM is sponsoring Middle-sex County Cricket Club for £750,000 over the next three years. "Lloyds TSB wants us to be fund manager for the whole group, and we need to re-establish the credibility of the name," says Mr Page. He says the Middlesex club

sponsorship fitted perfectly with the company's plans, not least because its base at Lord's cricket ground is just 15 minutes from HSAM's Fleet Street office in London. There are other benefits. he adds. "I played cricket a lot in my 20s. Now I play for

the company side. We can now play at the Nursery at "I can't wait to see the opposition's faces when we play Mike Gatting and Mark

Ramprakash as the first two.' Mr Page does have one regret. "I was born in Kent and lived there for 30 years. My heart will always be there." His colleagues should therefore watch out for any mysteriously dropped catches

Simon Bevan, head of fraud investigations at accountants Arthur Andersen, this week received one of the most interesting and challenging appointments of his life; tracking down Jewish assets and bank accounts looted

during the Holocaust.
"It's the world's biggest ever asset-tracing exercise, and we've been given unprecedented access to the Swiss banking system," says Mr Bevan, a former Hong Kong policeman.

The appointment includes Arthur Andersen, KPMG and Price Waterhouse and was made by the International. Committee of Eminent Persons, made up of Jewish organisations and the Swiss Banking Association.



On the team: Rob Page (left) of HSAM, ready to join Mark Ramprakash at the crease

The Swiss are paying for the search, which will examine gold and bank deposits in the UK. US. Switzerland, Poland, Germany and many other countries, says Mr Bevan.

The Swiss Parliament voted to give us unfettered access to Swiss banks, says Mr Bevan, a move which will end centuries of secrecy.

The teams of accountants are being assembled, says Mr Bevan, and they are about to decide whether to base the investigation in London or Switzerland.

Around 80 people are expected at the annual Slater Walker reunion at Scribes wine bar off Fleet Street on Thursday, 28 November. It is unlikely, however, that

the two prime movers behind the property group, which collapsed in the 1970s crash, will be attending - Jim Slater and Peter Walker. The way the company collapsed, leading to Britain's secondary banking crisis of

dented the ex-employees enthusiasm for get-togethers, which they have held since November 1976. The reunions are organised by an old Slater Walker hand, John S Arthur, who now runs a business called National Dental Plan, as well as Scribes.

1973, doesn't seem to have

Mike Finn, Whitehall's longest-serving press spokesman, had a retirement party last night at his last post, the Office of National Statistics.

The office party was a three-in-one affair. It included a seasonally adjusted Christmas party and celebrated the department's move from the back half of the Treasury building in Whitehall to new offices over Pimlico Underground station, as well as Mr Finn's departure.

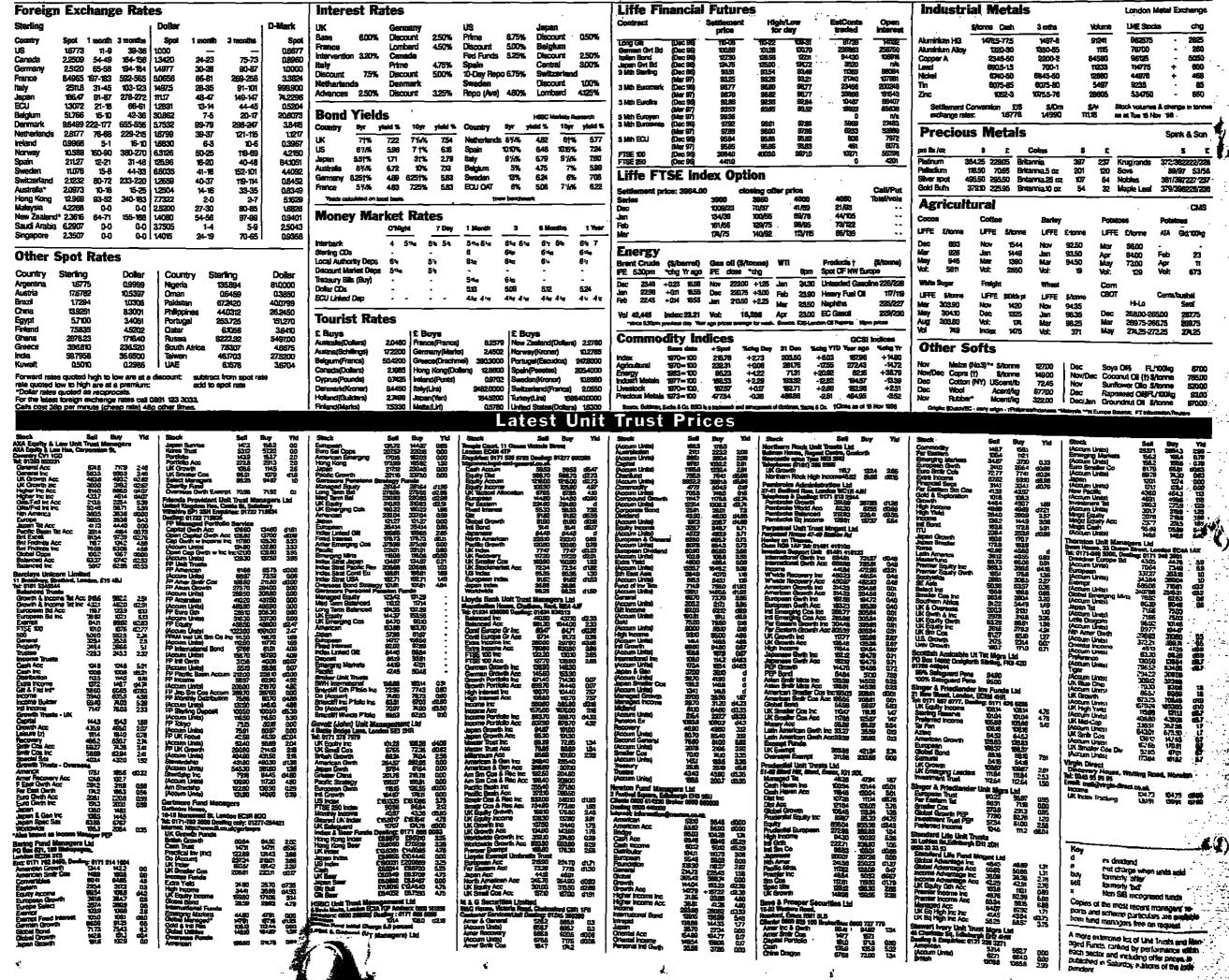
"I joined the Treasury press office in 1962 on the same weekend that Harold Maemillan [then prime min-ster] sacked Selwyn Lloyd as Chancellor," says Mr Finn. "I've handled devaluation. decimalisation - I guess you could say I've done a lot of

"I'll be retiring to deepest Surrey to write, consult and advise, free from the obstructions of bureaucracy. I've enjoyed my time here. I've had a ring-side seat on history."

What changes has he noticed in the media since he started? "The younger journalists don't seem to drink. With a name like Mickey Finn, that's not good news,'

John Willcock

came fi duties, dentall expecte meant the hig Duri	tion that in I government om customs (It was als y, a year in the budget s thest for 50 y ng the course t century, m	and excise o, co-inco which un x receipt urplus wa ears.) of the sub uch of th	e c Cons	Income bases Aminion taxes other bases							☐ 197 ■ 199	4.
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The £12bn mountain investors forgot

Nic Clcutti

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investors in UK companies have lost track of a huge £12bn in unclaimed flotation benefits they may be entitled to. The unclaimed benefits include share certificates and dividend payments, in addition to very recent rights issues which individuals might have passed on.

rights issues are sold at a premium and held until they are claimed, according to a report published yesterday by Mintel, the research organisation.
The unclaimed benefits form

part of a £77bn total of forgotten funds, which include £14bn in dormant and obsolete accounts, £1.6bm National Savings In many instances, company on extension rates and £2bn of registrars are unable to trace in-

Re	gional	breakdown	
Region Fo	rgotten	Unclaimed	Total
	funds ·	cash	
South East	£m 14.816	£m 6,010	£m
Greater London	8,231	3,339	20,000 11,000
Midlands	7,682	3,116	10,000
South West/Wates North West	-6,585 -5,488	2,671 2,226	8,000
North East	4.939	2.003	7,000 6,000
	4.939	2,003	6,000
	2,744 54.876	1,113	3,000
		22,260	77,000
Totals may not agn	e oue to	roundine.	

dividual shareholders when deposit when they mature. A arrive at the exact figures and further large area of lost benefits concerns up to £10bn in company pension payments, which individuals miss out on because they are not prepared to join and contribute a smaller

nount themselves. Robert Browne-Clayton, chief executive at IFA Promotion, which promotes independent financial advice and commissioned the research, said that while much of the money would be hard to access, some deposits could be used

almost immediately.

"Taking extra care of our existing money and savings can certainly free up cash to help us in the future, savings that could be used to boost future

The Mintel research was car-ried out by Paul Hersey, a senior financial analyst. He said yesterday that he had spoken to more than 150 people in the course of preparing his report, including both large and small publicly quoted companies.
"In some cases, I could not

tended to underestimate," he said. "In other cases, I came pretty close."

Mr Hersey said, however, he had not been able to work out the extent of capital gains tax liabilities that might be incurred by individuals who had not taken up their entitlements.

The total capitalisation of UK quoted companies runs into many hundreds of billions of pounds. Experts believe the amount unclaimed by shareholders can average up to 2 or 3 per cent of a company's market capitalisation in many instances.

Forgotten funds include money people have lost track of, such as bank and building society deposits. Many forgotten funds may entitle a policyholder to flotation benefits when a building society converts to bank status next year.

Unclaimed cash includes company benefits, premium bonds and National Lottery prizes. Some £54bn is in for-gotten funds, while £22bn is in

The money nobody want	-
Forgotten Funds	£m
	·
Deposits in dominant or obsolete accounts	41,000
National Savings on exertion rates	1,612
Persons lost track of	333
Old poles and coins	- 5
Undamed Totation benefits (shares)	10.000
	1.326
Stocks and shares	
Unit Tests	452
tife Assurance	108
Friendly Societies	. 40
Total Artificial and the Control of	<u>54,876</u>
Unclaimed Cash	£m
Unclaimed flotation benefits (divedends)	12.000
Unused company benefits	10.000
ncome lax	221
Premium bonds	. 14
National Lotters	. 24
Nationalism inclaimed whos	. 24

unclaimed cash. Mintel's research found that Londoners are the worst money managers in the UK, having lost track of up to £2,000 each, of which

almost £600 was unclaimed cash. This compares with an average of £1.700 nationwide and £1,400 for residents in the West Midlands.

22,260

loD criticises new curbs on trade unions

Government proposals to curb industrial action were branded as "undemocratic" by the Institute of Directors yesterday. Tim Melville-Ross, the Institute's director-general, said the plans would menute-Ross, the institute someton-general said the plans would result in "a complete lawyers' charter" as the courts attempted to sort out whether industrial disputes would be covered by the legislation. The Green Paper, unveiled by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade this week, says strikes would be illegal if of the Board of trace this week, says states would be illegal if they caused "significant disruption of everyday life or activities". Launching a manifesto for British Business, Mr Melville-Ross insisted that his organisation was "not amious" to see any new laws restricting trade union room the Conservatives over the past 17 years.

London Electricity bid rumours scotched

Shares in London Electricity fell yesterday after Entergy, the US utility group, dashed speculation that it was about to launch a takeover bid. An Entergy spokesman said the New Orleans power supplier had held "exploratory discussions" with London, believed to be over the past two weeks, but the talks had ended. It is not thought the two sides went as far as discussing a price for London. The shares fell 6.5p to 658.5p. Entergy has already discounted mounting a bid for Yorkshire Electricity.

Confidence in Germany grows

Business confidence in Germany jumped last month. The Ifo business climate index, one of the best leading indicators for the German economy, rose to 97.4 from 95.7 in September, with expectations returning to their highest since February 1995. An-

expectations returning to their highest since February 1995. Analysts said the figure suggested the economy was still expanding at an above-trend rate, continuing its second-quarter rebound. Germany's M3 money supply grew at an annualised and seasonally adjusted 8.4 per cent in October, the Bundesbank said. Its growth remains well above the 4-7 per cent target range but was probably boosted last month by the build up of deposits ahead of the Deutsche Telekom privatisation. The Bundesbank is expected to leave interest rates on hold. pected to leave interest rates on hold.

CME links up with London and Paris

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange yesterday announced the signing of two groundbreaking international agreements establishing links with Europe's two leading futures exchanges, the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) and the Marché à Terme International de France (Matif). They will bring short-term and long-term European interest rate contracts to the Merc's trading floor.

TBI's interim profits take off

TBI, the commercial property and regional airports operator, made pre-tax profits of £9.7m for the six months to 30 September, compared with £4.2m last time. TBI is actively looking to expand its airports division and may make its next move in Europe or North America, chief executive Keith Brooks said. The group operates Cardiff International Airport and recently acquired the Belfast International Airport for £100.4m.

Watchdog cuts BT's charges to rivals

Oftel, the telecommunications watchdog, has cut the charges BT rivals pay to connect calls to its network by 12 per cent. The reductions affect companies such as Mercury and the cable operators who need to route part of a phone call through BT circuits. The cuts reflect the huge cost cuts made by BT, which has continued to slash its workforce in response to growing competition.

Car production motors ahead

Car production surged by 2.8 per cent in the three months to the end of October, reflecting the continuing renaissance of the UK's motor industry. It means production is at its highest level since the early 1970s, just before the huge shake-out among British car makers. Compared with a year ago car production was more than 18 per cent higher. Export production rose by 53.7 per cent year-on-

Gates and Allen take stake in Chiroscience

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Bill Gates and Paul Allen, the two founders of US software giant Microsoft, will emerge with a 6 per cent stake in Chiroscience, the British biotechnology group, following a \$120m (£72m) takeover deal announced yesterday.

Chiroscience is buying Darwin Molecular Corporation, a US gene-based drug discovery company started in 1991 with backing from Messrs Gates and Allen and several venture capital groups.

The all-share deal will see the

two men convert their 14 per cent stakes in Darwin for holdings of slightly more than 3 per cent each in Chiroscience. The news initially sent shares in the British group 24p higher and they settled 10p up at

Darwin is involved in inves-

make-up to determine whether people's genes predispose them to diseases such as cancer and asthma. Chiroscience hopes that the combination of Darwin's gene discovery capability with its own expertise in "chiral" chemistry - a way of purifying compounds - will enhance its ability to discover new drugs. The group has already identified key genes involved in two genetic disorders. Werner's Syndrome, which accelerates the ageing process, and early-stage Alzheimer's disease. It is also claims to be on the way to identifying genes involved in psoriasis and osteoporosis, or

brittle bone disease. Mr Gates welcomed the deal esterday. "There is a strong synergy between these two companies which should accelerate the translation of Darwin's excellent science into therapeutic products. This merger is the not involved in genome rates," he said.



Strong synergies: Microsoft founder Bill Gates said the merger was the right move for both companies

Those sentiments were echoed by John Padfield, Chiro-science chief executive. "This deal creates a unique bioscience company. Nothing similar exists in the biotech world

which goes from gene to drug." as a drug-hunting company,

The idea would be for the combined group to identify a gene target, then some mole-cules to hit the target, followed by the development of a suitable

drug.

"The aim is to build a broad mole-Dr Padfield described Darwin portfolio of targets and molecules. It improves your hit

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Abbey moves into private banking

All Treanor Banking Correspondent

Abbey National is making its first entrance into the lucrative world of private banking through a link with Hambros, the merchant bank, and Dah Sing Financial Holdings, Hong Kong's fifth-biggest bank.

The venture, designed to tar-get wealthy individuals in the Hong Kong region, will be called DAH Private Bank. Abbey National and Hambros are each investing £6.6m, giving them each 24.5 per cent inter-

Abbey National has an offshore operation in Jersey but has not set up a separate private banking unit before. Hambros is aiming to boost its

operations with the appoint-ment of a new head of private banking, Warwick Newbury, hired from Coutts, NatWest's private bank, and due to join in

According to a survey published yesterday by Price Waterhouse, bankers are setting their sights on the personal trepreneurs in the emerging economies in the Asian region. This is also happening in Britain, where investment bankers are reaping the rewards of a hectic year of mergers and acquisitions and a rising stock market. "If you look at M&A activi-

ty it gives a sense that the good times are back... but not to the excesses of the 1980s. People are going to save more," said Ian Woodhouse, associate vicepresident at Price Waterhouse's Private Banking Consultancy. He points to the decision by

Coutts to open a branch in London's Docklands, where investment banks such as Morgan Stanley, and soon BZW, are

"Our clients are as likely to be a young, international in-vestment banker, as a member of the British aristocracy," a spokeswoman for Coutts said. Price Waterbouse's survey

highlighted significant growth in private banking but also an increase in competition in a market which has traditionally been associated with polite and gen-

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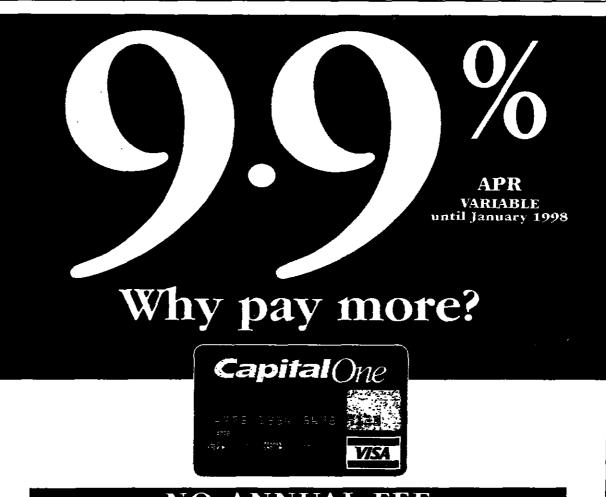
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There is plenty of support for the racist notion that footballers from other than European cultures are not to be trusted ridicule Emerson's complaint that his entered the most prolific phase of

A bleak day on Wearside, snow in the air, a harsh wind whipping in off the North Sea. Steve Perryman's eyes were on his new-found friend. Osvaldo Ardiles. "Terrific player, no question about that, and full of running," the former Tottenham Hotspur captain said, "but how would he perform in rotten conditions?"

Well, without a whimper. "Great pro that he was, Ossie just got on with it," Perryman added. "That match at Roker Park removed all doubts about him."

If unaware that winters in Ardiles's homeland can be bouechillingly damp, reservations Perryman held about the little Argentinian were understandable, a subliminal response to xenopho-

Such notable imports as Eric

Cantona, Jürgen Klinsmann and Andre Kanchelskis may have seen compassionate leave last week off the pathetic notion of weakhearted foreigners but the prejudice still exists. When applied to players from South America, especially Brazil, it prompts one cliché after another. Wait until winter comes. They don't like it up 'em. Suspect temperament. The beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema get mentioned so often you would think that every

This is as daft as the proposition that Bryan Robson must have been off his head when signing Juninho, Branco (who left quickly) and Emerson for Middlesbrough. I have heard it said, and it's true I'm sure that agents are behind the difficulties Robson is experiencing with his overseas contingent, particularly in the case of

Brazilian footballer hails from Rio.

caused a great deal of conjecture.

But from the comments in one or two newspapers you can't help thinking that there is plenty of peripheral support for the unavoidably racist notion that footballers from other than European cultures, whatever their colour, are not to be trusted; gifted maybe, but feckless, here today gone tomorrow mercenaries. When managing Newcastle wasn't Jim Smith driven almost to distrac-

tion by Mirandinha? Of course they come for the money and, for all its passionate frenzy, an easier passage in the Premiership. Did Ravanelli's face light up simply at the thought of spending some time tality of Brazil's leagues enough to



persuade Juninho that it was in his interests to go there?

In one popular print last week a photograph of Emerson's smart home near Middlesbrough was juxtaposed alongside the modest apartment he has in Brazil. That and more money than Pele ever drew; to

girlfriend, Andrea, cannot settle. Anyone would think that British footballers by comparison are hardy, sophisticated travellers. For Emerson read Jimmy Greaves whose brief period with Milan was one of escalating unhappiness. Greaves maintained a remarkable goalscoring record but was constantly at odds with Milan's stern coach, Nereo Rocco. Aware that his wife, Irene, found a great city less than enticing too, Greaves leaped at an opportunity to sign for Tottenham. "We

couldn't wait to get home," he said. Denis Law sensed that he had made a mistake almost from the moment he joined Torino from Manchester City to play alongside Joe Baker. They were soon back, Law joining Manchester United where he

his career. During the 1990 World Cup we sat drinking tea in Turin before Scotland played Brazil. I asked Law if he remembered much about the place. "Nothing," he said.
"Couldn't show you anything. The short time I spent here is almost a blank, not entirely a bad memory but all Joe and I thought about was get-

ting back home."

Ian Rush was miserable throughout the short time he spent in Turin playing for Juventus, learning little of the language, lost in a strange cul-

ture.
Others fared better. John Charles was a huge success when turning out for Juventus and is still revered throughout Italy, far more so than he is in this country. "It suited me." Charles said. "I was comfortable

there, and I think that registered with the Italian people. Whenever I go back they make a big fuss of me." Liam Brady, Graeme Souness, Ray Wilkins, Trevor Francis and

David Platt made the transition to Italian football without difficulty. Gary Lineker settled down quickly in Barcelona.

The truth is, of course, that some footballers, in common with people generally, travel better than others. I've known boxers who felt homesick after spending two weeks in a training camp, sportswriters who couldn't wait to get home after two weeks on the mad.

To suggest that Robson should have confined his gambling instinct to the racecourse does not account for human nature. If there is any justice the boldness will come right for him.

Sampras too hot for ailing Agassi

NESHA STARCEVIC reports from Hanover

Every time Pete Sampras has played Andre Agassi over the past 15 months, his game seems to move to a new level. In the latest chapter in the rivalry between the two Americans, Sampras thrashed Agassi 6-2, 6-1 vesterday to begin his attempt to win a third ATP World

"It was one of those days you wish you had every day." the top-ranked Sampras said after breezing through in 51 minutes against an ailing Agassi, his fourth straight victory over his rival. "My tennis was the best I've

played in a long time."
Agassi said he fell ill two days before coming here to a combination of an upset stomach and head congestion. "I am still feeling weak, I wasn't fit to play. It wasn't enjoyable to go and play out there," he said.

Agassi said he might still decide to withdraw from the tournament, which would bring Sweden's Thomas Enqvist into the event for the top eight play-

Sampras conceded that

poor performance. "I was in a zone, I couldn't play any better. It was one of those days when

everything clicks," he said. Sampras corupletely dominated the match and the capacity crowd of 15,000 whistled and booed Agassi. "I thought they were pretty hard on Andre. I felt he was still competing out there," Sampras said.

Sampras's victory was similar to his win over Agassi in Stuttgart last month. This time, though, Sampras was even more devastating, winning all of his 19 first-serve points. "This maybe outdoes it. I dropped my serve a couple of times in Stuttgart, I didn't today."

Agassi needed six deuces to hold serve in the fourth game. Over the next nine games, he won six points. Sampras was all over him, serving aces, hitting fearsome returns and firing winners from all over the court. "Tve had spurts of tennis like this, but not for an entire match," he said. Agassi, a former world No 1

who has now dropped to No 7. has not beaten Sampras since July 1995 in Montreal. Sampras now leads their series 12-8. Earlier, Thomas Muster

but said his own tennis had beating Michael Chang 6-4, 6-3, something to do with Agassi's leaving the American world No 2 and last year's runner-up with-

out a victory in two matches. Chang virtually has no chance of advancing from his roundrobin group, while Muster is now 1-1, following his opening defeat to Goran Ivanisevic.

Muster came into the tournament with only two indoor match wins this year, but he dominated Chang from the beginning, breaking the American's serve for a 2-1 lead.

Muster had won only one of seven matches in previous ap-pearances at the ATP seasonending event. But the former French Open champion was on top of his game. "It was nice to be able to play tennis, to get a chance to run and

fight for the balls. Yesterday, it

was a completely different situ-ation," said Muster, who was beaten easily by Ivanisevic. "Michael wasn't as aggressive today as usual and he made some unforced errors. I served well in important moments, I

put him under pressure, espe-cially at the end," Muster said. The eight players are split into two round-robin groups, with



Results, Digest, page 31 Andre Agassi struggles in vain to find a way past Pete Sampras in Hanover yesterday

Seles retires injured

Monica Seles may finally have an operation on her shoulder after was she was forced to retire from the Chase Championship in New York yesterday because of the injury which has troubled her all year.

The world No 2 retired from the £1.25m season-ending event at 4-5 down in the first set of her first-round match against Japan's Kimiko Date, after an ice hag on her sore left shoulder failed to alleviate the pain.

There were a couple of shots that made it even worse, and the pain just started shooting down my arm. All you can really do is ice it and numb it at that point," Seles said. The muscle tear in her shoul-

der has bothered Seles since her

Australian Open victory in January, which was her only Grand Slam title of the year although she did reach the US Open tinal, losing to Steffi Graf. After Seles left the court,

Graf showed no mercy towards her Slovakian opponent, Karina Habsudova, overpowering her 6-1, 6-4 in 48 minutes.

Seles' withdrawal put the 26year-old Date's retirement on hold. The Japanese player now meets the 16-year-old Swiss girl Martina Hingis in the quarterfinals in what is her last tour-Photograph: Allsport nament as a professional player.

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Atlanta athletes face ban Drugs in sport

Four Olympic competitors face drug bans if the International Olympic Committee decides to re-test their urine samples from the Atlanta Games.

The IOC medical director, Patrick Schamash, has revealed there had been four unannounced "positive results" from Atlanta for anabolic steroids, But he said the IOC had not been satisfied about the reliability of the testing procedures conducted on the high resolution mass spectrometer, used for the first time at an Olympics in Atlanta.

They were positive results," he said. "Not positive cases. We are not 100 per cent sure that the tests were positive. We don't want to spoil the athletes' lives if we are not 100 per cent sure. We want to be very clear."

Schamash said a decision on whether or not to re-test the ath-letes' samples would be made in the next two weeks. The IOC has not revealed which athletes, and which sports they compet-

ed in, were involved.
"We will decide whether to re-test," he said. "There's no wish to hide something."

The Bulgarian women's triple jumper, Iva Prandzheva, and the Russian women's hurdler, Natalya Shekodanova, tested positive for steroids in Atlanta on the standard mass spectrometer and were banned for four years.

In Toronto, the Canadian sorinter Ben Johnson, banned for life in 1993 after a second positive drug test, wants to be reinstated so he can run again and prove he is still "the best sprinter" in the world.

"I just want to re-write the books, and prove that I am still the best sprinter that ever ran track and field. I want to go back on the international circuit," he

Athletes setting world records at next year's Athens World Championships could earn a \$100,000 (£61,000) bonus, International Amateur Athletic Federation sources said yesterday. The IAAF council will make a formal decision next month whether to introduce prize-money at both its indoor and outdoor world championships.

Super League strives for the global game

bane, Canberra and the newly formed Adelaide Rams in the

qualifying rounds. Five Aus-

two domestic competitions sus-

ly believes that it will capture the

work. They can't lose any mon-ey on it, because all their costs

Super League made a start

on underwriting travel costs by

flying out two British-based

players, the Bradford Bull's

Robbie Paul and Paul Sculthor-

will be underwritten."

pended for the duration.

Rugby League

DAVE HADFIELD

Aided and abetted by an unlikely supporter in Linford Christie, Super League in Australia made a brave attempt to hit the ground running when it launched the 1997 World Club

Challenge here yesterday. The programme for the first season of the bitterly contested new global face of rugby league reveals two periods of three weekends during which the game will make its most ambitious attempt yet to develop its international potential at chib

During the first of them, from 6 to 23 June, the European Super League clubs - London, Leeds, Halifax, Wigan, Salford and Oldham - will be in Australia playing the likes of Bris- pe of Warrington, just for the

WORLD CLUB CHALLENGE TEAMS AND FIXTURES

EUROPE Pool & St. Holans, Wigan Wantion, Bracked Sufe, London-Brancot, Warrington, Wolver, Hutter, Stur Son, Pool & Shelfeld Engles, Others Bears, Castedrod Tigans, Leads, Pents St. German's, Salard Reds.

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2 Anglest: Pool A Auckland v Warrington: Pen-rith v St Helenis; Cronsta v Bradford. Pool B Hunter v Sheffield; Western v Parls. MATCHES IN EUROPE

14 Jans: Pool A St Helens v Cronulle; Brad-Jord v Auckland; Warrightn v Penrith. Pool B Costabind v Hunter; Shaffield v Western; 22 Jans: Pool A St Helens v Penrith: Bradford v Cronulle; Warrington v Auckland. Pool B Shaffield v Hunter; Paris v Wostern. Sheheau v Humar, rems v Western.

19. July Pool A Wigen v Bristener: London v
Cantiener; Hellitar v Cartierbury, Pool B Oldriam
v North Queerstand; Leeds v Adetaide.
28. July: Pool A Wigen v Cantierbury, London v
Bristener; Holder, v Cantierto. Pool B Sallord v
North Queerstand; Oldriam v Adetaide. 2 August: Pool A Wigson v Camberra: London v Canterbury: Haidex v Brisbane. Pool B Leeds v Morth Queensland; Saltord v Adelalde.

launch. Paul, taking a break from his winter contract with Harlequins, was suitably upbeat despite his jet lag.

tralasian clubs will play in Britain and France, as Paris "It's going to create a lot have against expectations been more intensity in the game, included in the format, with the which is what we need in England," he said. "Playing at Harlequins has shown me what a It is a far more complex formassive world-wide structure mula than the simple top four rugby union has got. This is the play-offs originally envisaged, but sort of thing rugby league needs Super League's Australian chief executive, John Ribot, naturalto put it on the world map."

The other key dates for the game internationally will be public imagination. "The Eng-lish clubs are very keen on it," he said. "They know it's going to next November, when Australia will embark on a three-Test tour of Great Britain - a venture that Ribot admitted was doubly important after the débacle of the recent Anglo-Kiwi series.

The Kangaroos will also play three English club sides on a tour which, along with the World Club Challenge final in Sydney a month earlier, is intended to provide a climax that will make sense of Super League's much vaunted "global vision".

vaunted "gloral vision".

"It takes our sport into another dimension." Ribot said.
As for Christie, he justified his fee by observing: "Although I'm virtually retired from athletics, I'm still in shape if someone wants a winger. It really must be the big

league, even if the rough edges of a presentation staged just across Darling Harbour from the point where Bill Clinton embarked on a harbour cruise later yesterday harked back to a less sophisticated era.

Super League's signs had a nasty habit of falling down; it is to be hoped that their promises will stand up better.

Donald puts India on back foot

Cricket

India 215 for 8 v South Africa

Allan Donald cut through the Indian middle order to reduce the hosts to 215 for 8 at the close of the opening day of the first Test against South Africa in Ahmedabad yesterday.

Donald picked up 3 for 33 from 13 overs after India had elected to bat. Sachin Tendulkar looked in excellent form before Jonty Rhodes threw himself to

his left at midwicket to catch the Indian captain for 42 off Pat Symcox. The former captain Mohammed Azharuddin steadied the innings with 35 hut was run out by Rhodes immediately after tea.

Hate day, Irida won toss
HIDLA - First Innings
S V Marijnear b Adams
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V V S Lawrian law Donald
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J Sinnath o Cullings b Donald
A Kumble not out.
8 K V Presod not out

Fast bowler Glenn McGrath has passed a fitness test on a blistered heel and plays for Australia in the first Test against West Indies in Brisbane tomorrow. Craig McDermott and Damien Fleming are already out injured.

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Wilder Committee WINCANTON B SEDGETIELD

GREG WOOD

Penniless punters trying to find their bus fare home from the track could do a lot worse at present than to try to tap Gordon Richards for a tenner. The

new jumps season could hardly have started any better for the man from Greystoke, with 23 winners from 47 runners for a strike-rate which nudges 50 per cent, and yesterday he had a double cause for celebration as the victory of Unguided Missile at Haydock and the defeat of Suny Bay at Kempton both

tightened his grip on the Hennessy Gold Cup, to be run at Newbury on Saturday week.

alier, who beat Viking Flagship at Cheitenham last season, and

last year's Hennessy winner Couldnt Be Better, but despite lacking a previous run he beat them both with conspicuous None the less, he remains a 12-1 chance for the Hennessy with William Hill, but the principal reason for such apparent generosity is that another of Richards's entries, recent Ayr

winner The Grey Monk, is an

target later in the season, and I am sure he is the type to han-

The Grey Monk did it very well

and I thought Addington Boy

ran a smashing race in the Murphy's Gold Cup. Certainly,

though, I would have to say that

The Grey Monk is the main one

Grey Monk in the ante-post bet-

ting is Challenger Du Luc, the

Murphy's winner, at 6-1, with

Billygoat Gruff and Coome

Hill on 8-1 and Addington Boy

Couldnt Be Better, who fin-

ished within hailing distance of

Unguided Missile yesterday

only because Richard Dun-

woody had eased the winner to

a walk, is 12-1 to repeat last

HYPERION 12.40 Antartichem 1.10 Baher 1.40 Springhill Quey

2.10 Royal Saxon 2.40 Val De Rama 3.10

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WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
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204 miles by W Timer from Cotton Denham, Somenet; Royal Saccon (2.10) sent 291 miles by P Bowen from Enveriordwest, Dyfed;
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SMART APPROACH (nap) 3.40 Shining Edge

Salesele

The nearest rival to The

at the moment."

a 10-1 chance.

ed later.

dle Aintree in due course." Unguided Missile is just one of four Greystoke entries for the Hennessy. "I thought it was well worth leaving all four in the race and at this stage I'm leaving my options open," the trainer said.

impregnable favourite at 7-4. "I have to be pleased with that, he did it very well," Richards said. "The Greenalls Gold Cup might be a realistic

Unguided Missile's three rivals for the Edward Hanmer Memorial included Gales Cav-

The Street

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i file

He was a second of the second

McCoy was last night considering an appeal against a three-day ban, imposed for whip abuse on Tuesday, which sidelines him for the Hennessy Gold Cup.

Sporting Index, the sports. spread betting firm, has introduced accounts with limited risk. The "Select Account" offers punters a known maximum; win or loss on every bet, the market's lowest minimum stakes overall, with a guarantee that losses cannot exceed more than £50 on a minimum stake bet.

THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + WARWICK

RACING RESULTS

> 1.10:1. MARIBILO (P.Nerr) 2-1; 2. Queen of Spandes 1-2 fav, 3. Anglessey Sea View 20-1. 11 ram. 2-b; 28. (Mrs M. Raveley, Sattern), Totale 52.80; £1.30, £1.10, £1.50. £1.90. Dual Forecast £1.30. Computer Straight Forecast const £3.37. Ther £2.50.
>
> 1.40: 1. SABN CHEL (R Supple) 11.8 Jay.
> 2. Circus Line 7-2; 3. Desert Fighter 5-1;
> 7 ms. 1%, 2. (F-lorden, Leomentar). Total
> £1.90: £1.20, £2.10. Dual Forecast: £2.90.

CSF: £6.22.
2.10: 1 UNGUIDED MISSELE (R Durwoody) 10-11 fav; 2. Constant Be Better 11-4; 3. Gaines Cavesiur 5-2. 4 ram. 4, 20: G Richards, Graystoke). Total: £1.70. Dust Forecast: £2.30. CSF: £3.53. Non Rummer. 2.40: 1_TULLYMURRY TOFF (E Calegrary).

3-1; 2. Mytton's Choice 3-1; 3. Tumpole 5-2 tav. 5 ma., 3/v., 3. (/ Jefferson, Melton). Tota: £3.30; £1.40, £1.80. Duai Forecast: £5.00. CSF: £11.29. Non Runner, Little Garr-ES.O. CSP. ESTL.25. Non-runnes, Clarker.

Ber. Little Gunner (10-1) was withdrawn not under orders; Rule 4 applies to all bers, deduction 5p in the pound.

3.10: 1. THERMES UP R Durancostyl 13-8 (av., 2. Spenish Light 11-4: 3. Rebei Ring. 13-2. 5 res. 7, 11. (G McCourt, Wartings). Tota: £2.50; £2.50; £2.30. Duel Forecast: £2.40, £2.66; £3.30.

53.40. CSP. £6.33.

3.40; 1. HABLE DEFINING (Cliswelps 6-13 - tox, 2. Desert Force 4-1; 3. Country Store 16-1, 4 rain, 4, 20. (N Twistor-Dawes, Cheltenham). Totar £1.60. Dual Process: £2.00. £3.40, CSF, £6.33.

Computer Straight Forcest: £3.24. Non Runner: Better Bythe Glass. Quadrot: £9.50. Placepot: £9.20. Place 8: £9.91. Place 5: £9.47.

12.50: 1. CANARY FALCON IN Wilmington 13-2; 2. Salies 7-1; 3. Regeneration Research 6-1. B rat. 4-1 fav Nothing Dong. 24.3. (ROTSullean, Whitcombe), Total 29-50; 52-20, 52-20, 51-20, Dual Forcest: £16-50. Computer Straight Forcest: £44.31. Totals: £239.94. Trac \$31.80.

1239.94. The: £31.80. 1.20: 1. WHILEAM (A Magaint) 4-6 fax; 2. Wilde Massic 12-1; 3. Feel The Power 6-4. 4 ren. 11, 6. (D Nicholson, Temple Gui-trg). Tota: £1.40. Dual Powers: £2.80, CSF: £6.86.

58.86.

1.50: 1. NOT FOR TURNING (J Osborne)
3.1 tov. 2. Royal Breet 7-1; 3. Helona 11-2.
16 ran. hd. 3. (J Sharwood, Upper Lambourn):
Tobac £4.70; £2.40. £2.80, £2.20. Df.
25.70. £5.71; hd. £37.90.
2.20: 1. TRYING AGAIN (J Osborne) 15-8
tac 2. Old Bridge 7-2; 3. Lacksodera 50-1
ran. 7: 4. (D Gardolfo, Wantaga). Tobac £2.70; £1.30. £2.80, Dual Porcessi: £5.50.

Eventual winner Unguided Missue (far side) and Gales Cavalier clearing the water jump at Haydock Park yesterday

Richards strengthens his Cup hand

year's Hennessy success. "I was Suny Bay broke a blood vessel. pleased with his run and it means that he doesn't have to carry a penalty," Charlie Brooks, his trainer, comment-

Less encouraging for Brooks, however, was the performance RICHARD EDMONDSON of Suny Bay in the Limber Hill Chase at Kempton. Suny Bay set out as the 5-1 second favourite for the Hennessy, but. failed to recover from a mistake on the far side on the final cir-

cuit before finishing well-beaten behind Trying Again. The leading bookmakers immediately removed him from their Hennessy betting, and subsequent tests indicated that card.....

"My horses have been running very well, but this is a worry because it might indicate some sort of viral or bacterial infection," Brooks said.

NAP: Chickawicka (Warwick 3.50) NB: Bironi (Wincarrton 2.00)

A second impressive success for a northern yard at Haydock was that of Marello, a threetime bumper winner, in the novice hurdle which opened the

rety Blocs, 7-2 Actarticism, 9-2 Ply To The End, 6-1 Tri-and, 10-1 Americk, 20-1 others

1.10 HATHAWAY'S LADIES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,850 added 2m 5f 110yds

0503/5-0 WE'RE JA THE MONEY (II) Moss J Bover 12 10 0

1.40 W. A. STEPHENSON MEMORIAL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 added 2m 5f

2.50: 1. TIM (J Osborne) 15-2; 2. High Grade 8-1; 3. The Tolsmach 3-1. 5 ran. 8-11 for Crapmass (4th), 5, 2. U Jardens, Roya-lon). Tolsmass (4th), 5, 2. U Jardens, Roya-lon). Tolsmass (4th), 5, 2. U Jardens, Roya-1, 2. The Lond Level 1, PERSING MOTTO, 11, 2. The Lond Level 1, PERSING MOTTO, 11

3.20; Dead-heat 1, SERUDE NOT TO ()

3.20; Bend-Inest 1, SERUDE NOT TO ()
Osbome) 7-4; Dend-Inest 1, FINE THYNE (M
A Fitzgerad) 6-4 fer; 3. Apple John 4-1. 4
ran, dend-It, dist. (O Sherwood, Upper Lambound, M Mrs A Perret, Pulborough). Totax vin
Fire Thyne £1.20, Berude Not To £1.10. DF;
£1.70, CSF; Fine Thyne, Bende Not To £2.19,
Berude Not Jo, Fine Thyne, £2.22,
3.50; 1. QUMI EAGLE (A P McCoyl 11-4
for; 2. Just Valleigher 12.1; 3. Shekes 161. 20 ran, 1½; 6. (M Pipe, Weilington). Tobs:
£4.10; £2.00, £5.30, £24.00. DF; £40.40.
CSF; £46.47. This not won.

CSP. 546.47. Trick not won. Placapot: £61.20.Quadpot: £21.90. Placa 6: £130.96. Placa 6: £43.28.

HEREFORD

1.00: 1. CROWN AND CLISHON (P Hole) 100-1; 2. Sibelian Mystic 10-1; 3. Warsing Reaf 5-1. 18 pin. 8-11 by Fursen. 10. dst. (T Geothand). Tota: £3.8. 40: £1£10, £2.60. £1.70. Df: £355.40. CSF. £824.25. Tota: £121.60.

1.30: 1. POPPERS PET (MrA. Baking) 11-1; 2. Province Pages 10-1; 3. Marticipital 4.1.

2. President Peggy 10-1; 3. Wayshill 4-1 co fev. 13 sen. 4-2 co fev Where's Willia (4th). 12-, 7. (1 Matthu): Totas: £18.00; £5.50, £2.40; £1.70. 0P. £5.60. CSP. £113.99. Tricast: £485.56. Trice £128.50.

2.00: 1. GLOWING PATH (J. Haris) 3-1:
2. Lusingsuped Junior 7-2: 3. Scolo for 141. 8 ma. 6-4 for Alex's Mirror, 13, 114. ft
Horigos, Tobre 52.40; 6: 160, 51.10, 52.50.
DF: 217.00. CSF: £14.18. Tricser £119.07.

Tno: £110.20.

This: £110.20.

2.30: 1. DON'T BU CADRAN (A Thombris 6-1; 2. Mount Genigh 8-1; 3. Cardinal Rule 25-1, 31 nen. 7-4 for What's Your Story. 7.

25. (I Forster). Tota: £7.70; £1.80, £2.80, £8.90. Dr. £57.80, CSP. £52.44.

3.00: 1. LETS BE FRANK (R Johnson) 2-1 tax; 2. Rusear's Recet 7-1; 3. Clod Mapper 10-1: 15 mm, 9, 2. (Noel Terrice). Tota: £2.60; £1.10, £2.40, £2.60, Dr. £10.40.

CSF: £17.88. Ticses: £117.44. This: £28.50.

3.30: 1. \$60011381 BAMER (A Thombris) 7-4 fax; 2. Poscher 5-1; 3. Northern Singer 9-1, 12 mm, 20, 12, powerbon. Tota: £170; £150, £1.40, £3.00. Dr. £3.40. CSP. £12.61, Tricest: £52.90. The: £52.90. Nor.

22.03 21.04 21.05 25.39 The £52.90 Non-FLICRI THEMES 552.99 The £52.90 Non-Ruener: North Valley. 4.00: 1 WELSTOCK MERGIE (6 Hogen) 5-1; 2. Lovely Research 4 for; 3. Koshebiy 5-2, 13 vos. 2, 174. (des.) Persen). Total £7.40; £2.00; £1.20, £2.70, DF: £12.60.

Jackpot: not wan (pool of £2,287,75 carried toward to Warwick today).

Placapat: £467,70,Qamapat: £26.80. Place 8: £383,55. Place S: £94.84.

CSF: £28.49. Trop. £33.80.

42-P123 LE DENSIAN (S) (CD) Ms D Thomson 9 11 4
503P-60 OMERNHELM (S) VT homston 6 11 2
ALFE Ms M Resely 7 10 12
350-P56 ALKSUNGER (S) P Moretin 6 10 12
52-83-10 ALKSUNGER (S) P Moretin 6 10 12
539-00 CALLERNOY (20-0) Diam's 6 10 12
405463 CAMPTOSAURUS (177) D Afair 7 10 12
405463 CAMPTOSAURUS (177) D Afair 7 10 12

Link weight: 10st. Title handkep weight: Homens Above 9st 13th. 51.

15 245-225 TWM FRILS (8) 6 Moore 5 10 11.

16 245-225 TWM FRILS (8) 6 Moore 5 10 11.

17 245-225 TWM FRILS (8) 6 Moore 5 10 11.

18 245-225 TWM FRILS (8) 6 Moore 5 10 11.

18 245-225 TWM FRILS (8) 6 Moore 5 10 11. _C NicCorneck (7) B 14

Mary Reveley's mare beat deal, and contribute a proportion of the £270,000 available in added prize-money. Nigel Twiston-Davies's Queen Of Spades - who started the 1-2 favourite - by two and a half lengths, with Peter Niven motionless in the saddle, and will leading novices over hurdles.

Before racing at Kempton yesterday, the course disclosed that a sponsor has been found for the track's valuable Christmas meeting, which includes the meeting in December 1997.
King George VI Chase on Boxing Day and the Christmas Hurdle 24 hours later. Pertemps, current sponsors of

the St Leger at Doncaster, will support the meeting after signing a "substantial" one-year

BETTING: 11-4 Rye Crossing, 3-1 Springful Quay, 5-1 Out Conture, 6-1 Bessenbudy, 10-1 to Deutston, 12-1 Twin Falls, 16-1 others

2.10 COLIN MACANDREW HANDICAP CHASE AM-ATEURS (CLASS F) £3,600 added 3m 3f

4515-0P GALA WATER 例 7 Dun 10 11 11____

3131U-1 BRIAR'S DELIGHT (19) R Albin 8 11 10 ...

550-P44 MASTER SALESMAN (B) (D) Mrs V Word 13 10 0 .

- 6 declared - 8 declared Min weight: 10st. Time weight: Circulation Set 13th, Marser Seleman Set 9th
PETTING: 5-2 ther's Delight, Val de Rama, 4-1 Circulation, 6-1 Rese de
Valen, 12-1 Sister Rossa, Master Seleman

F744P-3 LEMTHALL PRONCESS (20) J Negatiam 10 11 5.

BETUNE: 7-2 Scrato View, 4-1 Royal Sazon, Sparrow Hall, 9-2 Blazing Daws, 7-1 Labathali Princess, 9-1 Harricane Andrew, 14-1 others

2.40 WASHINGTON HOSPITAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,600 added 2m 110yds

P230-00 SISTER ROSZA (108) (D) Mrs S Lamyman 8 11 11 ... A Dobblin

.....Mr M Bradt

Kempton also announced plans for an £8.4m redevelopment of their facilities. Work will clearly be one of the season's start at the course in February, concentrating principally on the grandstand and re-siting of the paddock immediately behind it, and should be finished in time for the King George HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP: Lad-brokes: 7-4 The Grey Monk, 8-1 Sury Bay, Blygost Gruff & Challenger Du Luc. 10-1 Addington Boy & Coome Hall, 11-1 Coudnt Be Better, 12-1 General Crock & Johnny Se-teside, 16-1 bar. 7-1 (with a run) Unguided Missile. Coralt. 7-4 The Grey Monk, 7-1 Bil-lygost Gruff, 10-1 Addington Boy, Challenger Du Luc & Coombe Hill, 12-1 Feothered Gale, General Crack & Johnny Setasobe, 14-1 ber.

Photograph: David Ashdown Frost hurt

in fall

Jimmy Frost was detained in hospital last night with suspected chest injuries after a fall at Hereford yesterday. The 38year-old jockey was unseated from Bishop's Castle at the fifth fence and was kicked by other horses.

nor, was also taken to Hereford County Hospital after a fall from Baxworthy Lord in the same race. He was concussed

Another rider, Tom O'Con-

3.40 SEDGEFIELD PADDOCK BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 1f		
1 1232-64 SHEWG EDEE (17) T Easterby 4 11 10		
2 11-3330 EDEN DANCER (19) (8F) Mrs M Reveloy 4 11 7		
3 OLSF-40 UNITED FRONT (B) (D) I Noville 4 11 0		
4 00612/0- TRIMEZ (180) Mrs A Swinterk 5 10 13		
5 33-2224 MONIOS (19) 6 Moore 5 10 13 Collegium		
8 55-P35P COURT JONER (10) H Alexander 4 10 0		
- 6 declared -		
Minimum weight: 10st. True handloop weight: Court loker 9st 12th,		
BETTRIC: 2-1 Shiring Edge, 3-1 Eden Dencer, 9-2 Monios, 6-1 United Front,		

WARWICK HYPERION L20 Channel Pastime 1.50 Shuttlecock 2.20 Rumaway Pete 2.50 Dromhana 3.20 Sounds Strong 3.50 Chickawicka GOING: Good.

■ Left-hand course. Run-in of 240yds.
■ Course is west of chy on B4095. Buses from stations at Warwick (1m) and Learnington Sps (2m). ADMISSION: Club S12 (16 to 24-year-olds 58); Tantersells S8; Course Sh. CAR PARE:

VISORED FIRST TIME: Everio Rufo (3.50).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Smolensk (3.50) has been sen. 151
miles by J Berry from Cockerham, Lancachire; Colour Scheme (1.50)
sen. 147 miles by H Howe from Onkfordbridge, Devon; Runssway
Pete (2.20), Peptic Lady (2.50) & Break The Rules (3.50) sen.
140 miles by M Pipe from Nicholashayne, Devon.

1.20 ETHELFLEDA'S MOUNT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 4f 110yds

CUFFOL3- EASTERN ROVER (247) (ID) Capt T Forser 10 10 0 ... A Bases

- 6 declared -BET/ENG: 7-4 Flapjack Ltd, 11-4 Channel Postinos, 3-1 Henley Wood, 7-1.50 HARBURY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,450 added 2m 3f

002010- COMMEN STEPTOE (196) Mass H Knight & 11 10.

= 13 declared = Minimum weight: 10st. True nandicap weights: Sir Pageant, Bright Sepphire 9gt 13h. Colour Schama Szt 8ht, Hathallou 9st 3ht, Commanche Storm But Historium weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Str Pageant, Bright Septime
Set 130. Colour Scheme Set 8tt. Hastindou 9st 3tt. Commencire Storm 8st
3th.

BETTING: 7-4 Shottlibrook, 9-2 Tamanah, 6-1 Hastindou Crown, 7-1 Coronal
Stapton, 8-1 Camanahar, 10-1 Ray Short; King of Babylon, 12-1 oldens

1 Microre Bay, White Claret, 10-1 Mr Rough, Smolensis

2.20 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE/JOCKEYS ASSOCI-ATION SERIES HANDICAP HURDLE (QUAL-IFIER) (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 3f 3501-10 TESN MY (12) B Lewstyn 6 12 0 V Santrey F012-16 RUMANNY PETE (12) (20) N Pos 6 12 0 AP McCory 2-2311-4 KHALDI (9) (2) 0 Gardofo 7 11 7 Sophie Milchel (5) F01613 GROUSEMAN (2011 (0) Mrs H Kright 10 11 6 5106 DOMAPPEL (279) Ms. J Cacil 4 10 11. T West
10. WESTORD HELL (363) P Hobbs 5 10 0 ______ A Magaire
000-001. ROSEHALL (16) (20) Ms. T Föreigen 5 10 0 _____ G Hogan (3)
- 7 declared -

– / necarec – valuum weight: 10st. True tendings weights: Attainel Ast 7th. ITTMR: 11-4 Getosemen, 3-1 Romaniusy Pote, 7-2 Khalidi, 9-2 Domani I, 8-1 Teen Jay, 9-1 Winsford Hill, 40-1 Rowshall 2.50 SHIFILEY MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m 2f /3FO/G- ANYTHINGYOULKE (210) C Smith 7 11 5. 343/00- COREY ROAD (222) C Brooks 7 11 5...... 0- PEPTIC LADY (396) M Pipe 6 11 0 ...

8-1 The Shy Pages, Peptic Lady, 10-1 others 3.20 SHIPSTON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m 2f

– 9 declared – BIG: 5-2 Drombana, 4-1 Coney Road, 5-1 The Brud, 6-1 Arctic Market

1911F-1 IDIOT'S LADY (12) (CD) Mrs. J Planen 7 11 10 ____ W Marston 11113-2 CLASS OF INNETYTING (10) (CD) Cap. T Foster 7 11 5 _____ — 4 declared — — Mr A White (7)

SETUNG: 5-2 Class Of Manhytma, Sounds Strong, 3-1 kilot's Ludy, 7-2
Fell Of Cats.

3.50 ASHORNE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 22*1 CHECKANICKA (16) (CD) B Paleng 5 11 5 R Farmer
25 ABOVE THE CUT (S) C Mostock 4 10 12 C Mosto
38ESAK THE RULES M Poe 4 10 12 A P Micro
000- DON'T MIND F I DO (229) P Webber 5 10 12 Jar P Scot
0 EVEZIO RUFO (SB, N Litymotas 4 10 12 Jar R Kanasagh 1
16- HURSPOANE LAMP (257) D Microlson 5 10 12 A Magnilia IS KELCHONE SAY (243) O STRENON O BURNEY AND SANCTION OF SANCTION MILEMENT SAY (243) O Shemood 5 10 12 ...

3.30 Second Call (nb) 2.00 Zaltoon 2.30 Andre Lava worver: wood.

E Bight-hand, galleping course. Run-in of 200yd.

Course is north-exist of trous on B3081. Templecombe rail station (service from London, Waterloo) four miles away. ADMSSBON: Members \$12.50 (Junior Members, 17 to 22 years, \$8.50); Tattersalls \$8; Course (and cars to course) \$4. (Under-16e free into all exclosures). GAR PARK: Free. ELEADING TRAINERS WITH BUNNERS; M Pipe — 35 winners from 128 numers gives a success ratio of 27.3% and a profit to a 51 level stake of 515.38; P Nicholis — 18 winners, 112 runners, 16.1%, 521.78; J Gifford — 11 winners, 72 runners, 15.3%, \$255.38; B Hodges — 11 winners, 141 runners, 56%, \$164.8; Eleading JOCESTS: B Democody — 29 winners, 124 rides, 23.4%, \$281.7; J Ouborne — 15 winners, 68 rides, 22.1%, \$44.40; A McCoy — 11 winners, 66 rides, 16.7%, \$226.34; G Bradley — 8 winners, 37 rides, 21.8%, \$49.23.

BLANKERD FIRST TIME: Scornbell PSprine (2.00); Mr Jasper (4.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Second Call (3.30) won at Towrester on Thursday. 1.30 U.W.E.S.U. STILL STANDING NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m Penaity Value £2,268 577840: 8-11 Ankley HBL, 9-2 Wayfarers Ways, 6-1 Se 195: Partr Leven 6-11-1 N Dwyer 8-1 (D Gandolfo) 12 ASHEY HILL has improved two stones on official Flat ratings since she last ran over hurdles, warrang the times in the process, most recently at Salisbury (Im) last morth. Admittedly, Richard Bowe's mare showed only moderate form in seven runs over timbe last season, a 10-length fourth to by Edith at Plumpson in Merch being as close as legit to a win. Lack of stamers assemed a problem, but this two miles, on ground reported yesterday still to be noting on the test sade of good, should not be a problem and Agriby Hall and not read to repost the improvement she showed on the Fart to win the west race. The going and trip should also be in Waysterers Way's twost. Nicky Henderson's golding searning to struggle in deed ground at Startford last time. On his last was there in Merch for fast ground, he had just taken the feed when failing two out in a 15-runner melden hurdle with by Mutazz. The return to two miles will suit Sammites Hann after has Hustingdon flop less time. Calviere lacks a recent run, so Eleanor Muse, who made the sunning when a singit and a quantar second to Lorcarjo at Humfingdon

2.00 TOTE BOOKMAKERS NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 2m 5f Pennity Value £4,049

1. 420231 MARMERIS INTRODUCED FOR THE TOTAL STATE OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTR P-34551 LEBAL ARTIST (9) (7 A Jonney) Mes C Johnsey 6 10 B (604)
30504-3 CRACKONS PROSPECT (18) (Art J Gliddon) B R Millman 5 10 4
0 0-95 DECOR (17) (Unity Farm Holiday Centre Lind R Hodges 6 10 0 ...
0 0-0000 PUBBECK RAMBULES (244) (Mes M Lane) G Battle (5 10 0 ...
3 PC-33 STORMMULE (1908) (12) (Melke Roberts) M Roberts 7 10 0 ...
3 PC-35P- FERRY EML (253) (The Cumpy Group) Capt T Foster 8 10 0 ...
4 MASSIER PUBLICASS (22) (Equay Seephschasing) Ancient Turnel (10) CUSSS - SWEET BUCK (183) (R C Pugly R Pugl 7 10 0 ...

- 15 declared - inhum weight 10st. Two handicap weight, Stormhill Pilgram 9st 9th, Ferry Ball, 5 Sweet Buck 8st 1316.

1th, Sweet Buch Bot 13th.
BETTME: 7-2 Zuthoes, 4-1 Birool, 5-1 Mariners Mirror, 6-1 At The Grove, 7-1 Room
gal Artist, 19-1 Highland Socie, 12-1 Whity, 14-1 Cracking Prospect, Decor, 16-1 o
1995: Strap Performer 6 11 0 A Thornton 8-1 (6 Balley) 11 ran

Although the mount of Adman Magure, ZAITOON needed his Chepstow return in a hand-izap hurde and went off a bigger price than his gambled-on stablemate Mytton's Choice who duly won, went Zaitoon westerning into sicht place. The bue-year-old will strip much litter for the run and begins his life in chases on a good mark. David Nicholson trequently gwes his horses their chasing debuts in nowce handicaps and this looks a good oppi tishty. Markners Mirror's task at Carlise was made much easier by Rich Desire break turity. Mariners Mirror's task at Carlise was made much easier by Rich Desire breaking down, but the mare still impressed in making all, jumping well. Even with 12st 11b, she is a big danger. Legal Artist has much more on his plate than when winning at Ludlow last time and the penalty could anchor him. A bigger threat should be Birons, numer-up in his last three reass, including when bestern four lengths by Micheado at Utiouster on his reappearance. He is sure to have come on for the run. The booking of Richard Durwoody for the relatively unexposed point winner Highland Jack catches the eye, while Rassableh and Whitely should both win chases, judged on what they should over hurdes list season, but may need their first run of the season.

Selection: ZAITOON

2.30 HAMILTON LITESTAT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 added 3m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £6,775 PS342/- FLASHTHECASH [S94] (0) (0) G Mostan Mohang C Eganton 10 11 11 ...

5255-SP TOG OF PSACE (12) (20) (P Refusedon) G Balaing S 11 0 ...

11- AMORE LANAL (254) (NJ Mitchell A Java 7 11 0 ...

43122P BEAURIEPAIRE (220) (PJ Miss Partners R Alter 8 10 9 ...

53122P BEAURIEPAIRE (220) (Ppl-Miss Partners R Alter 8 10 9 ... 41-1133 RAPHDOW CASTLE (9) (BP) (Jelliny Horde) P Nicho 15/11/2/4- MR INVADER (382) (M A Boddingson) N Gaselee 9

BETTINS: 100-30 Le Melile, 7-2 Andre Lanet, 9-2 Raimbne Castle, 6-1 Beaurepoire, 7-1 Mr Invedor, 8-1 Fleetithecasts, 10-1 Tag of Peace. 1995: Smith's Band 7 11 9 R Farrant 9-1 (Mrs J Pitment) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

LE MERLE'S chase wins lest season came first time out at Cheltenham (when he benefited from the mulesh behaviour of Product) and at Ucoverter in March, when he was returning from a three-month break, to lack of a provious run this season should not be a problem. On his finel start lest season, Le Neitle finished four lengths second to Proud Sun at Cheltenham and that winner, along with the third, General Russy, gave the form a boost when running so well in the Whathead from out of the hendicap. With the ground to suit, he can make a winning return. Raisdow Castle must be the fittest of these and has twice been third, to Special Account here and to Lord Of The West at Lucion, since he won his first two starts at Newton Abbot. He tooks to have enough weight, though. Tug Of Peaces has been disappointing in both starts this term (a hundle and a chase), so he is best watched even though he has skipped to a good mark, Aadre Lunel, winner of four of his six linsh points in 1995, won both sights over fences last season. Gifted the first of them at Nottingham by the last-fence fail of Firmsy Truth, he had to ruid out all the stops to hold Justica at Windsor and does not look well treated in this first hendicap. Fleatished and returns on a good mark compared with when winning on his lettest start at Aintree in April 1995 and as worth keeping an eye or. Beautrapeare proved consistent less yees and hes good place prospects, athough the run is likely to be needed. Mr layader returns from a year off having run just once last season.

Selection: LE MERLE

FORM GUIDE Hamilton Silk went up 13ib for his wins at Chepstow (Free Handicap Hurdle) and Werwick (easily beat the only other finisher, Katzan), so his third to Crack On at Sandown less
time was a good effort. It still means he has enough weight though and PHAR FROM
FUNRY will prove tough in except of 22th, 1009 Balding's runner wound up last second with an impressive success from Amaze at Assot and showed that he would soon be with

wan an impressing success international at Association should that the would store be were rung again when chasing home Poteriate (stablemate to Namiden SNI) on his ratum a Chepstow. He needed that run and will appreciate the faster ground here. Monstock fount Mouse Bird much too good at Newton Abbot last time and probably has enough weight although the fact that both his wins have been over course and distance on good ground is snicouraging. Vision Of Freedom needed his first run last year and that may again prove the case, although these conditions will suit.

Selections PHAR FROM PURNIN 3.30 ESF TATTERSALLS (IRELAND) MARIE NOVICE CHASE (QUAL

IFIER) (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m Penalty Value £3,457 – 5 declared – BETTPKE: 5-4 Second Call, 11-8 Guinda, 8-1 Entlepark Rose, 10-1 Kno's Promise, 20-1 Up The

SECOND CALL has shown superior from to Gulada over hundles but she was let down by her jumping last season when med over fences. Tim Porser's more did complete on her final start at Nottingham, going down a length and a half to Andre Loral (she would only have been that had Plinsy Time not failer at the last) despite being far from fluent. Second Call did much begin on her resum when scoring by all lengths from fley In Mondade at Towcester a week ago. The race tid not take much winning with Thinking Twice needing the run and Role breaking a blood vessel, but she finished with only a single error and den continue he improvement. Guinda with her first two over hundles less season, here and at Airtime, and did prictly well in the Hoechst Paracur Final on heavy ground at Newbury when soch to Datis Rose in mention, Very lightly raced in recent seasons, she was an encouraging thad to The Last Fing on her reappearance at Bangor last month and unsested early in Micherado's Uttoweter race last time.

Selections SECOND CALL

4.00 GREAT WESTERN NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m 6f Penalty Value £3,834 120-011 MINITERS ROCK (23) (Airs Hamy J Duffley K Bioley 7 11 10 _ 0240-1 MILLERSFORD (15) (Airs Densi Fleschof) N Goodes 5 11 5 _ 0210- ADMISSIC (236) (Airs J Bioley) C Poptern 4 13 0 _ ____

– 13 decienci – GETING: 9-4 Hueters Rock, 5-2 Mileratord, 4-1 Captain Jack, 12-1 Kinglegton, 16-1 Atavistic Monosonio, 20-1 others. 1996: See More Business 5 11 8 A P McCoy 2-5 (P Nicholis) 10 ran FORM GUIDE

HUNTERS ROCK, a dual bumper winner on fast ground in Ireland, opened his account in this citizatry when stepped up to three and a quarter rivies at Hereford and impressed at Cheftenham last time when easily bearing Tipping The Line. Kim Boiley's numer must carry a double penalty, but he looked a good prospect last time and the slightly shorter the should not be a problem. Captains lack, a smart slaying handicapper for Luc Cumani in 1994, cost 100.000 jns to join Metrin Pice and has made it to the course just once so far, not jumping well and recing too freely in blinkers at Ascot, finishing tailed off behind Lyphantisetic in January 1995. The stable reported ther Captain Jack had schooled well recently, but is likely to need this run, Millersfort won quite a competitive race in good style on the return at Kengton, beating Quart three lengths. He may find Hunters Rock too good today but seems sure to win more races, particularly when sent chasing. The step up to this distance is very much in Killerington's towar and the will have improved for his fourth to Reservants here recently, while the Ay bumper winner, Attwistic, ex-irish Memesonic and Southern Scandals are the others to note.

then. "Well, I said after the World Cup that we would go through two difficult years and this will be the sec-

ond of them. The side going into the

World Cup was a mature one, olwi-

ously nearing the end of the read. The essential thing was to get our

arms around some new talent im-

mediately on our return. Last year

we picked up on the odd individual, we preked up on the odd individual, like Mark Regan and Jon

Sleightholme, but this time we're

With four freshmen in the side on

Saturday, England are taking their biggest gamble since sending a par-

boiled squad to Argentina in 1990.

Rowell has had his eye on three of

the new boys - Tim Stimpson, Andy

Gomarsall and the remarkable lock

Simon Shaw - for some time while the fourth, Adedayo Adebayo, has

forced a place through sheer weight

of performance on Bath's left wing.

Selection has not, however, been a

straightforward process, as the sac-

rificing of Jeremy Guscott indicates

'Putting together a

back division has

been a pretty

complex business

"It wasn't particularly difficult to identify the forwards who could do

the job for us but, with the modern

game as it is, putting together the

back division has been a pretty com-

"When players come under pressure at international level, they tend to re-

ing. It's a safety-net reaction.

"Fortunately, some of our club

sides have changed culture this season and, as a result, the players

should not be totally unfamiliar

in an England shirt. But I need some-

one to run the show on the field and

by asking Phil de Glanville to cap-

go forward in a more dynamic way.

where we stand in world terms un-

til the summer, when we've had a

chance to digest the lessons of the

Lions tour of South Africa and our

own Test in Australia. It might turn out that we've made big strides or we

may still be inching our way along

the road. Whatever the situation, we

fered a setback like that, it is all

"During the weeks and

Simon didn't complain about

The plaster came off shortly !....

anything. He followed every

months of his recovery process,

medical instruction to the let-

ter, but also had an advantage

because he is such a fit athlete."

after Christmas, then it was into

the swimming pool and gym-

nasium, before a remarkably

swift return to first-team action :

at West Hartlepool on 5 May.

Now, aged 23, the 6ft 9in gen-

tle giant is ready to show Eng-

land exactly what injury has

deprived them of, with Angles :...

"I can enjoy a rare Saturday off tom rugby because Bristol aren't

playing, so I won't be at Twick-

chuffed for Simon, he has worked so very hard to get what he has

always wanted; an England cap.

among his many well-wishers. 🐃

about mental attitude, the de-!

she said. "I can't remember if sire to get fit and the total com-

there was a ruck or a maul, but mitment which it requires.

"I'm not sure we will know exactly .

tain the side, I think we can look to

Photograph: Peter Jay

Shaw's incredible fight

years, never doubted his fighting

"It was a distressing incident,"

my eyes were trained on the play

ers and Simon just didn't get up.

When I reached him, I thought

alised it was where his ankle had

dislocated and everything was

facing in the wrong direction."

Doctors at nearby South-

mead Hospital stabilised Shaw

overnight, before the or-

thopsedic surgeon, Gordon

Bannister, operated the fol-

lowing morning to repair a double dislocation, fractured

"I knew Simon would have a

a fight on his hands to get fully

fit again, but I also knew, having

seen him recover from his knee

injury, that he would be up to it,"

Angles said. "He's got such a big

heart, and it didn't matter what

other people were thinking be-

cause he saw no reason why he

shouldn't play rugby again.

shin and ligament damage.

his boot had come off, then re-

spirit would defy the odds.

moved on considerably since beat-

ing us in Cape Town. They still have

the power game - indeed, their

physical intensity has increased, with

the big-hit tackles going in harder

than ever before - but their skills

have been sharpened beyond recog-

nition. It is almost like a fast and fu-

rious game of chess with the

southern nations these days, and they

are throwing our own stop-start

style into ever sharper relief."

with what we are asking them do to

plex business," Rowell admits.

vert to the things they are used to do-

going further.

all too clearly.

RUGBY UNION: England's coach tells Chris Hewett he has a new set of priorities to match the unfamiliar look of his side

Rowell worries over southern hemisphere

Jack Rowell, the England coach, in pensive mood as he looks to the future and the fast and furious style of New Zealand and South Africa

An ankle injury has forced the

captain and scrum-half, Niall

Hogan, out of the Ireland team

for Saturday's Test against Aus-

jury in last week's match against

Western Samoa, is replaced by

Garryowen's Steve McIvor, a

new cap, while the hooker, Kei-

comes captain. Wood, playing his

first full international since he in-

jured a shoulder in the World

Cup against Japan in Bloem-

fontein last year, led Ireland A

to their win over South Africa A

changes and two positional switch-

es to the team that plays Ireland on Saturday from the side which

defeated Scotland at Murrayfield.

iury, comes in at right wing with

Tim Horan moving to centre

while Pat Howard is omitted

and George Gregan takes over at scrum-half from Sam Payne.

In the pack Dan Crowley re-

places the injured Richard Harry

Jason Little, recovered from in-

Australia have made four

in Donnybrook last week.

Wood of Harlequins, be-

Hogan, who sustained the in-

tralia at Lansdowne Road.

who genuinely considered them-

selves capable of winning the 1995

World Cup. During the summer, he

flew thousands of miles to watch the

New Zealanders win the first Tri-Na-

tions tournament and then beat the

Springboks in a Test series of stupe-

fying quality. The purpose? To build up a detailed mental picture, not only

of the All Blacks themselves but of

the precise method of beating them.

Irish captain out of Test

They seemed to me to be one of

handedly destroy an England side the best New Zealand teams ever,

moves from No 8 to blind-side

flanker replacing Owen Finegan.

Michael Brial comes in at No 8.

Ben Clarke's chances of play-ing in Saturday's Test against Italy

at Twickenham improved when

he was able to train with the Eng-

land party yesterday. The Rich-

mond player had been such a

doubt with a dead leg that the se-

lectors had called up the Bristol

captain, Martin Corry, as a back-

row reinforcement on Tuesday.

players from the Midlands

squad for Sunday's game against Queensland at Stourbridge.

Moseley agreed to release the props Nathan Webber and Stu-

art McKinnon, plus the centre

Dan Harris and hooker Dean

Ball. But they changed their

mind after a request from the English Professional Rugby

Union Clubs, who are in dispute

with the Rugby Football Union.

AUSTRALIAN TERM (v ledand at Laredowne Road on Saturday): M Burler J Lutie. D Herbett. T Ho-arn, J Reft D Knox, G Geograp D Corolley, M Foley, A Brades, W Waugh, J Estes capt., D Mitru, D Wil-son, M Brad. Replacemente: P Housed, S Payne, A N Other, A Hostit, M Gopto, A N Other.

Take away (in an almost sensual,

beautifully bottled way.)

PULLED SINCE 1777. IN PINT BOTTLES SINCE

Moseley have withdrawn four

obviously gifted in all areas and all

disciplines. They were playing in a user-friendly climate in South Africa

people here tend to forget that we

don't have decent playing surfaces

during the winter months - but they

had a rare mix in that they were able

to attack from anywhere and every-

where, through the forwards or via

the half-backs, through midfield or

Lorna Angles, the Bristol Roy-

al Infirmary physiotherapist, will

never forget the sight that greet-

ed her when she rushed to attend

Simon Shaw after he was injured

last November against the tour-

ing South Africans, Transvaal, at

second-row prospect lay scream.

ing in agony, his left ankle hor-ribly distigured, while distraught

Bristol team-mates stood around

him shocked, stunned and silent.

Only weeks after recovering from a serious knee injury which

had wrecked his World Cup

chances, he was again heading

straight to an operating theatre.

one year and one day later, Si

mon Shaw will play for England

in a Test match at Twickenham.

defied, expert medical opinion al-

though Angles, who has worked

for Bristol rugby, club for five

His recovery has amazed, if not

But this weekend, exactly

England's brightest young

the Memorial Ground.

through the back three.

of New Zealand and South Africa in

getting our structures worked out.

We've finally got a system in place

whereby we can identify talent ear-

ly and bring it through level by lev-

el, but it took us forever to achieve

that. Ouite honestly, our sluggishness

in that direction has cost us two or

The southern hemisphere preys on

Rowell's mind, for there lies the ul-

timate challenge. Eighteen months

three years of progress."

trick for the No 8 Pablo Bouza.

But the expected capitulation up

front did not take place. Ably

captained by the former London

Welsh prop Julian Davies, Lon-

don managed to hold their own.

per man from the RFU - the

same money the big names would

have received - the hard way. The

problem is they now have to re-

peat the performance, this time

on Saturday as a curtain-raiser to

LONDON COUNTES: H Roshin (Hevent); A Pin-

loy (Onell). Replacements: N Oldtom (Hasen) for Brady, 47; A Tucker II, Weish) for Kitch, 55; 8 Pearce (Hasen) for Bredey, 64; R Ashworth (Hasen) for Rusim, 64; D Raffelle (Rossyn Brot) for Camplet-Lameton, 64; J Cameson (Hasen) for Rees, 70; J Coulson (Maspa) for Jones 75.

To Hees, 70, 3 Coopean (Weeps) for Jones 75.

ARGENTIAN XV: D Garmantonio (E. Jurado, 48);
O Bartolucia (N Fernandes-Miranda, 76), F GerGal, L Arban (Legat); C Bartolucia, 76), F GerSada, C Barnes; R Grau (Plessen-Jall. 68), C
Pomaron, M Scelan, J Strees, G Llanes, (FernandesLobbe, 77), R Yanagian, C Viel, P Bouza.

Take away (in a somewhat

dull, mathematical way.)

nock (Havand), S Boydell (Havand), J Ale (Esher), P Patter (Rosslyn Park); C Raymo

England against Italy.

London: Tries Rushin, Alexander, U

They certainly earned the £500

sport

uch to be endured, little to be enjoyed." Jack Rowell

classics - he once baffled the massed

ranks of the press by quoting Milton

at them - and those words of Samuel

Johnson's seem to encapsulate the

England coach's mood perfectly as

he broods over exasperating lastminute injuries, agonises over errant

goalkickers and generally frets and

fumes his way through the build-up

to this weekend's opening interna-

tional of the season against Italy.

That, though, i. Rowell all over, it

is almost as if he relaxes by refusing

himself a moment's relaxation. "He's

hyperactive," his wife, Sue. says.

He'll stay up into the small hours

thinking something through, then dis-

appear at the crack of dawn for some

meeting or other. He thrives on it."

across as touchy and defensive un-

der intense questioning - you know trouble is brewing when he address-

es an adversary as "old chap" in a

tone of voice that suggests hanging,

'I've been seriously

inhibited by players

being unable to

train properly'

drawing and quartering is the soft-

est available option. Last season

was traumatic on the public relations

front. Rowell turned on the press

more than once during a fraught, if ultimately successful, Five Nations

campaign. This time, however, he is keeping the tin lid on his frustrations.

Try to direct the conversation towards

a tender spot and he will say, simply

and engagingly: "Let's steer clear of that one, shall we?"

loving every minute of his associa-

tion with what amounts to a brand

new England side; new captain, new

engine room, new half-backs, new

back line, new broom. It is his side,

after all, built in his own image with

the raw material of his choice. Win

or lose on Saturday, he will match

his charges pint for pint deep into the night and outlast all but a handful

of them. "I enjoy success on the field,

the realisation of something a group of talented people have worked in-

credibly hard to achieve," he said.

closeness, every bit as much."

The off-field argy-bargy be-

tween the senior clubs and

Twickenham had threatened to

leave the English game with egg

on its face, especially after the

majority of the First and Second

Division clubs refused to release

their players for matches be-

tween the various divisions and

the plethora of touring sides.

At Twickenham vesterday,

facing the mighty scrummaging

machine of the Argentinians,

even the coaches had pulled out,

although forward specialist Phil

Keith-Roach did lend technical

support. That lumbered Simon

Dear, the former Rosslyn Park

and England A lock, with the job

of coaching a bits and pieces side

from Third and Fourth Division

clubs; there was even a Division

Seven man (former Harlequin

Nick Killick).

DAVID LLEWELLYN

London Counties

Argentina XV

But I relish the camaraderie, the

es. "Against Italy, we will have to face

up to a degree of ring rustiness," he

admits. "It's an inherent danger of

being inactive for eight months and

I can't do a thing about it. To add to

my problems, I've been seriously in-

hibited by players being unable to

train appropriately. Every time we

hold a squad session, 10 or more turn

up injured. What do you expect when

they're being asked to play two hard

picked. Sunday saw their first

training session from which the

team was picked. On Titesday an-

other hour or so including 20 min-

utes on the scrum machine for the

forwards and finally a further

scrum practice in the hotel car

park vesterday morning. Hardly

ideal preparation, and without the

established stars who generally

make up the London Division it

was not exactly a crowd-puller.

another 73,000 into the ground.

But the 1,000 or so who did go

saw a spirited performance,

which lasted for three-quarters

of an hour. In that time London

even had the effrontery to take

the lead when full-back Hamish

Rushin steamed over after

Andy Pinnock came in off his

right wing to create an extra

man. Stand-off Craig Raymond

bly jet-lagged, were not really

tested outside and ran in a to-

tal of eight tries, including a hat-

The Argentinians, still possi-

then added the conversion.

They could have squeezed

Contrary to popular belief, he is

Rowell may occasionally come

has always dabbled in the

THE LEAGUE PART

icy track and do F.O. (MARTENS LEAGUE Prov POND LEACHE Press

Ronn neemer di Webh stage . wh STPONED MATCHES THOMWIDE FOOTBALL

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fartin Brundle ne veteran, cr. (s) g a preview run ork Q-R-W-R-ill Brundle, prepara debut this week

differ.

Brundle

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YOUTH CUP FIRM TON

 (ζ)



Maradona

relieved

by court

success

Fallen idol Diego Maradona. saddled with a paternity suit and depressed by the jailing of his

manager, had some good news earlier this week when a judge

dismissed allegations of a

Federal judge Carlos Branca

ruled there was insufficient ev-

dence to try Maradona for al-

legedly switching urine samples

with another player who tested

positive after a match for Boca

When he testified before the

judge last month, Maradona

admitted to taking cocaine but

denied having switched samples.

traumatised by the imprison-

ment of his manager and close

friend Guillermo Coppola on

cocaine-dealing charges, which could land him a jail term of up

to 20 years.
Police found a pound (400

grams) of cocaine in a flower

vase at Coppola's home three

weeks ago. Coppola insists the drugs were planted. The hero of Argentina's 1986

World Cup victory, twice banned from the sport for drugs,

has said this latest in a long se-

ries of scandals has sapped what

hard to accept because I've

been a fighter all my life, but that's it: I've taken off my gloves,

I've no more strength to fight,

A 20-year-old woman iden-

tified only as Valeria launched

a paternity suit earlier this month against Maradona, who

is married with two daughters.

to order genetic tests within a

few days which they say will

prove Maradona is the father of

Her lawyers expect the court

Maradona said recently.

"They have beaten me. It's

strength was left in him.

The 36-year-old has been

switched doping test.

Juniors last season.

Lomu primed to fight for place

Rugby Union

New Zealand's rugby players used up so much emotional energy last summer in scaling the one great sporting peak left for Tem to conquer - a series vic-

ry in South Africa - that their arrival in London yester-Foiay should have been a gentle. low-key affair. Some hope.

While Sean Fitzpatrick's lat-Li est band of mean-eyed adventurers were in wisecracking wood, the captain himself was characteristically single-minded as he summed up his party's ambitions. "It's been a long season and a very exciting one for all of us," said the record-breaking Auckland hooker. "But we haven't come all this way to let ourselves down in the last two games of the year, that's for

By way of underlining that these All Blacks, thirdy disguised as the New Zealand Bar-barians, intend to avenge their 1993 Twickenham defeat when they resume hostilities with England on Saturday week, the management made it clear that the human mountain range known as Jonah Lomu would have to fight for his place.

According to John Hart, the All Black coach who is also in charge of the Barbarians party. Lomu would not rate a place in Phe full New Zealand Test side at present. Glen Osborne, who s on this tour, and Jeff Wilson. Di home to re-charging his batterdes, are the main men and, just to complicate matters, me ny rugby watchers back horpe believe that Lomu has now been surpassed by the Fi-jian Joeli Vidiri, who qualifies as a Kiwi in 1998.

"If anyone had told me back in June that we would win a series on Springbok soil without Jonah, I'd have laughed in their facts, "admitted Hart. "But Jon-ah is knee and shoulder prob-lengs opened the door for Glen and he turned in some fantastire performances when they were needed. I think Jonah is I better person for his setbacks, though, and I expect him to come back stronger than ever."

Lomu himself is desperate to play at Twickenham. "Of course I want to play," he said "I've set myself the goal of winning back my Test place and when you want something so badly, you'll do almost anything to get it." If all that was less than reas-

uring from the English point of

iew, Hart was making no ex-uses. "How we see the game und see it may be two different jings. From our perspective, it not a Test match but a game be played in the Barbarian adition; quite honestly, we've ad a hard season and are in no sition to play a one-off Test this stage. But in saying that, e could not contemplate facis England with a team com-1:tely lacking in experience." With fledgling superstars ich as Vidiri and the two outanding Auckland talents, the atside-half Carlos Spencer id wing-forward Andrew owers, also on the trip, Engnd will know they have been a Test even if the tourists beg

Clark denies Forest team is for sale

Football

The Nottingham Forest manager, Frank Clark, has dismissed reports that he has been told by the club's board of directors to put his entire first team squad up for sale.
It was claimed that Clark had

been ordered to off-load his players because Forest's substantial debts were putting off prospective buyers interested in taking over at the City Ground. aking over at the City Ground.

But Clark insisted: "It's rubto make a living after all and bish. To say that I've been mak-

ing calls to managers telling them all my players are available for sale is just not true. What is true is that I have been in touch with one club to try and get a deal over one player going but wants to work with the club for deal over one player going but that never got off the ground." Striker Brian Roy is believed to the only player Clark would be willing to off-load but there

has been little sign of any movement for the Dutchman. The Forest board will meet in the near future to meet representatives of the three bidders

still in contention to take over at the City Ground. They are understood to be a consortium led by Lawrie Lewis, an Indonesian businessman and a group of local busi-nessmen. After meeting the three parties, the directors will then call an extraordinary gen-

eral meeting at which the club's

209 shareholders will decide

who are to become the new owners at Forest. Clark will be hoping that everything is decided sooner rather than later as he is desperate for funds to try to strengthen bottom-placed Forest, who have not won since the

opening day of the season. But at least he has the consolation of having his current squad back to almost full fitness. Stuart Pearce and Kevin Campbell have suffered no reaction after coming through Mon-day's defeat at Sheffield Wednesday after injury layoffs. Chris Bart-Williams could also be in contention to return after a three-match absence with a thigh problem against

Blackburn next Monday. The Portsmouth manager, Terry Fenwick, is hoping that the appointment of Terry Venables as the new coach of the Australian national team can bring his club an influx of fresh play-

Venables, who has also become chairman at Fratton Park in succession to his old friend and former chairman at Queen's Park Rangers Jim Gregory, is confident that he can handle the demanding dual role of helping the "Socceroos" to the 1998 World Cup finals and heading the First Division club.

Portsmouth aren't in a position to pay him a salary. He is very keen for the people of Portsmouth to know that his involvement with the club isn't a long time to come.

"Being chairman Portsmouth and manager of the Australian side allows him to have the best of both worlds. In many ways this might even help Pompey. You never know, we might end up with a few Aussie players on our books if Terry thinks they are right for us." Venables still has an option to

buy the entire Fratton Park club for just one pound in a deal agreed with Martin Gregory when he was appointed as di-rector of football earlier this year. Disgruntled Brighton fans are stepping up the pressure on the Football Association to

help resolve the Third Division club's problems.

They are planning a march in London before the match at Fulham on 30 November and yesterday appealed for "all true football followers" to join them. A petition will be handed into

the FA during the march, which will end in Hyde Park. In the last home game against Mansfield around 2,000 supporters responded to a call to boycott the fixture and Brighton supporters groups have pledged to maintain the campaign until the chairman, Bill Archer, and the chief executive, David Bellotti, resign.

Dick Knight, leader of the consortium attempting to take over the Third Division's bottom club, has warned that they will not survive beyond the end will miss the match against of the season if Archer re-



in the National Basketball Association game on Tuesday. Houston won 122-93

Portuguese officials imprisoned

A former Portuguese referee and the chairman of a First Division club were sentenced to prison yesterday for bribery. Referee Jose Guimaro, who

told journalists he would appeal, was given 15 months after being convicted by a court in the northern city of Matosinhos of accepting money to influence the outcome of matches. The current chairman of the

Leça club, Manuel Lopes Rodrigues, was sentenced to one year in prison, while two other men were given sentences of

The Ajax defender Frank de

Boer will be out of the game

aging his left ankle in training

De Boer, who missed last

night's European Champions'

League home tie with Auxerre,

until the New Year after dam-

on Tuesday.

eight months. All four denied the charges which stemmed from a 1993 investigation into match-rigging.
Guimaro, 41, was arrested in

June 1994 after months of investigations in which police searched the homes of several referees and club directors.

The case came to be known as the "case of the 500,000" after police found photocopies of a cheque for half a million escudos (£2,000) in Guimaro's house.

lands' World Cup qualifier in

ternational, Lothar Matthäus,

and the national coach, Berti

Vogts, have ended their long-

running feud after a "peace

summit" in Bono yesterday. Matthäus, 35, refused to hide

Germany's most-capped in-

Belgium on 14 December.

escudo (£8,000) payment by Lopes Rodrígues to Guimaro to favour Leça, who at the time were a Second Division club.

The court case came at a delicate time for Portuguese football, which has been shaken by a series of allegations of bribery and attempts to influence ref erees. Uefa, European football's governing body, is to probe allegations that the Portuguese champions, Porto, sought to bribe a referee 12 years ago be-The prosection charged that the fore a European Cup-Winners' money was part of a two million Cup match with Aberdeen.

triumphant Euro 96 squad, a re-

"There have been irritations

but they should not and will not

come up again," the DFB pres-ident, Egidius Braun, said in a statement. "This frank discus-

Matthaus earned the last of

sion will close this chapter."

action which upset Vogts.

ian referee who took charge of the game in 1984 have denied the accusations but Liefa decided to vestigate given the seriousness of the allegations made by a Portuguese businessman, who says he acted as go-between.

Both Porto and the Roman-

Porto are also at the centre of another controversy over a holiday in Brazil for referee Carlos Calheiros in the summer of 1995. The club has officially admitted that it picked up the bill for the holiday but says it did so without realising who it was for.

Achilles tendon and had to

nich captain will return to the na-

tional side, where Borussia

Dortmund's Matthias Sammer

has filled the *libero* role. But the

meeting improves the chances

for a testimonial match, which

Shearer's comeback schedule.

urday. And Muller had no

need to consult the record

take almost a year off.

the seven-month-old girl. Maradona lost a paternity suit four years ago when a judge ruled he was the father of a boy in Naples, where he played for Napoli in the 1980s. He refused to submit to genetic tests in that case, but his lawyers have not Injury to keep De Boer out until new year commented on the latest suit.

He also threatens to quit professional football. He has not played in a game for three months but trained with his It is unlikely the Bayern Mu-Boca Juniors club on Tuesday. Maradona showed up to prac-

> what he described as a show of solidarity with his coach, Carlos Bilardo, Coppola and his fans. "I didn't come thinking about playing again but rather for Carlos, I came for Guillermo,

tise for about half an hour in

I came for the Boca boys and for all the people who love me." In the afternoon, he appeared to leave his troubles heby appearing of television programme with his The second leg will be wife and dancing, ironically, to

The Spanish First Division assuming he returns to action at Stamford Bridge on Satclub Valencia is seeking the return of Brazilian striker Romario to play for the side and Johan Cruyff as coach to replace Luis Aragones.

"Cruyff is being sought," spokesman Manuel Mas said. Whether Romario returns would depend on the new coach, but it's being discussed." Valencia accepted the resignation of Aragones within hours of the side defeating the Turkish side Besiktas 3-1 in the Uefa Cup on Tuesday.

Grasshopper Zurich on 4 De-his disappointment at being his 122 caps in December 1994, seemed in doubt while Matthāus cember as well as the Nether-left out of his country's shortly before he ruptured an was at odds with Vogts. Muller holds few hopes for Metz in Newcastle

the bar of Le Barca, the brasserie built into the main stand of the Stade Saint-Symphorien. "If we win in Newcastle," she said, "maybe we will change our name. 'The Magpie' perhaps.

The Magpies having flown from the home nest of FC Metz with a 1-1 draw from the first leg of their Uefa Cup third round tie, the feeling left behind in the regional capital of Lorraine was that Kevin Keegan and his Newcastle United team had all but snatched a quarter-final place. "We only have a 10 per cent chance," Joel Muller, the Metz

Sylviane Pierron leaned across coach, said. "I don't think it is possible for us to win in Newcastle, but we hope, we dream."

Mme Pierron was not dreaming when she told how Metz overcame even greater odds, and the mighty Barcelona after losing 4-2 in the Saint-Symphorien. Their 4-1 victory in the Nou Camp stands in the record books.

The French television stations did not even bother going to Spain," Mme Pierron recalled of that Cup-Winners' Cup tie in 1984, "Everyone said Metz had no chance but this brasseric was named to remind the world that

The French are not expecting a Uefa Cup comeback, Simon Turnbuil reports

only once failed to beat a Continental side there in a European tie. That, ironically, was in 1977, when Bastia recorded the most recent two-legged success by a French club against English opponents.

Keegan, before heading home, pointed to more recent history in an effort to discourage too much pre-hatched chicken counting on Tyneside.

In this Criest.

MBA: Toronto 93 Sestife 106; Cleveland 73 At-lants 63; New York 92 Orlando 68; Houston 122 Minnesota 93; Minaulee 100 Dellas 97; Denser 86 Marm 104; Golden State 109 Los Angeles Laivers 112.

Johnny Nelson and Ryan Rhodes, two Sheffield boxers, will both challenge for British titles on the same bill at the city's Ponds Forge Lessure Centre on 14 De-cember. Nelson will fight the Hackney veteran Dennis Andries for the vacant

The Scottish League yesterday backed referee Bobby Tait for allowing Tuesday's First Division match between Partick Thiste and St Johnstone to take place.

Partick were left without four of their first

ration were less warout four or trier mis-learn squad and Sanits were missing two because the atrocous weather prevented them reaching Firnal Park in time for the match, which St. Johnstone won 4-0. The League's secretary, Peter Donald, said: "The referee had no choice but to put the common by the sides auth faul

the game on as both sides could field teams made up of registered players."

Basketball

Football

St James' Park may not be "Metz won 3-2 in Auxerre only quite so intimidating as the the week before last," the New-Nou Camp but Newcastle have castle manager said. "They are lose his most saleable asset a very good away team. This tie is still wide open."

It could yet be turned against Newcastle by Robert Pires, the rising young star of French football, who is keen to join the growing Gallic contingent in England's Premiership and will see his trip to Tyneside as an opportunity to place himself in the shop window. It is understood that the roving forward has al-

ready been offered to Newcastle, who - with their embar- match number four on Alan the Elvis tune "Jailhouse Rock". rassment of attacking riches apparently failed to show

Muller may well be forced to when Metz depart from the Uefa Cup, but in the early hours yesterday he was more concerned with the task confronting his team in the return leg on 3 December.

"I was surprised by the strength of Newcastle's defence," he admitted. "But with Shearer they are another team again. They have even more possibilities."

books to recall that the £15m man's first goal in interna-tional football was scored, on his England debut four years ago, at the expense of France. Perhaps it is just as well that the Metz coach played for Dunkirk in his younger days. His side will need a French variation

of the Dunkirk spirit in the Toon Army's fortress on Tuesday

srundle crashes on trial run

FOOTBALL RESULTS

eterday

Tower v Frightey.

artin Brundle, the Formula he veteran, crashed out durg a preview run for the Netork Q/RAC Rally yesterday Brundle, preparing for his raldebut this weekend, was on annaissance drive of one of Welsh stages when he slid off cy track and down a bank.

MARJENS LEAGUE Premier Division: 8.1-

AOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Altre-

Touri v Finaley.

NITING LEAGUE Premier Division: Leeds tole. First Division: Aston Villa v Leocashotts County v Maddlesbrough; Port Voleston County v Marchester City. Bradford Manchester City. Bradford

V INSURANCE COMBINATION League Portsmouth v Bournemouth.

OUTH CUP First round: Weiling Utd v

seday 's restilits'
cUP Third round first leg: PC Metc 1
e 67) Newcaste 1:Boardsray pen 31;
to [in 3 | Anderston 48, lepta 70;
sur 76 | Hamburg (Ref) C; Cub Brugss
Schallen (Cert 1 (Buesters 50); Helst (Shee) O Anderlecht (Bert 0; Intondic (R) 5 | Storga 6; 57; Angloron 13,
so Genz 22; 651| Boawsta (Pon 1 Limj; Valencia (Sp) 3 (Noone 17; Ging 23; Fernera 82) Besistos (Turt 1
logis 33); Tenente (Sp) 0 (Peppoord 0)

rogu 33): Tenente (Spi d Feyencord)
ONWINE FOOTBALL LEAGUE First DiIspach 3 Samdon 2:Man City O Huded C: Oxford Usi 0 Bolkan Q. Postponed:
or Pace v Snell Usi 1. Second Division:
ord 2 Brentford 1: Bisstol Rivs 1 BumPeophorousi 0 Galanghari 1; Pyrnoumstatifield 3: Pression 3 Litro 2; StockDiscloped 0: Watdord 1 Wycombe Q.
ossied: Crews V Enstel City; Notis
vy Bury, Wresham v Rothernam; York

sday's results

White Sox sign Belle for The Ford Escort car - not the one Brundle will use in the

a different car. "It's no big deal," said the 38vear-old after the accident on the "recce" for the 9.14-mile stage at Gartheiniog.

ICIS LEAGUE Premier Division: States 0 Enfield 2. Second Division: Ware 0 Wemb-ley 4. Goardian Insurance Cup second round: Bedford Town 1 Chertsey Town 0.

pagnatis Bedford Town 1 Chertsey Town 0.

JURBOND LEAGUE Langue Cup second
reunds Bamber Bridge 1 Raddriffe Borough 5;
Barrow Ahn 1 Geetra 0; Redon 2 Warrington
0; Spennymor v Harringate Town.
DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Divisions
Chelmsland 0 Mung's Lynn 2. Southern Orlestons Buckmetham Town 3 Enth and
Selvector 0.

HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE Shield Float: Cal-

HARP NATIONAL EMBLE Shield Figst: (3)-hay Utd 2 Limench PC 0 (after extra time). UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Premier Divisions Bosson 5 Akraecs Stech-storia 4; Eynesbur) 1 Coganhoe 2: Newport Pagreti 0 Potton 4: St Neotra 2 N Soercer 2: Stoffold 4 Aemoston 1; Wellingborough 0 Spolding 1.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Promier Divi-

stor: Barristople Town 1 Torrington 2 NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Di-visions Trafford 3 Glossop North End 0,

JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premie

a cool \$50m three-day event which starts on Saturday - was damaged, forcing him and his co-driver Roger Freeman to continue in

The Chicago White Sox have

made Albert Belle the game's highest-paid player, signing him to a five-year contract estimated to be worth more than \$50m (£30m). Belle, who led the majors v Walsall, Third Division: Carliste 3 Cambridge
0: Colchester 1 Scurtherpe 1: Darlington 0
Exter 1: Doncaster 1 Northcripton 2; Fusharn 2 Barnett: Hereford 1 Lincoln 1;
Swansea 1 Brighton 0, Postponedd Leyton
Opent v Wigar, Munsseld of Crester, Enchdale
v Scarborough; Hardepool v Cardiff,
ESLL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE First Division:
Partick 0 St. Johnstone 4, Postponedd: Exist
File v Greenrock Johnon manranged for Tues
26 Nov.) GNI Wastohall Conferences: Spaiding Challenge Carp Bromsgroue 3 Northwall
LISES; Ketneng 0 Fambonugh 2; Rushiden
1 Stevenage 0, Postponedt Wolving v Welling.

veceran Dennis Andries for the vacant crusesweight title while Rhodes, 20 yes-terday, becomes the youngest ever challenger for a domestic belt when he meets Paul "Silly" Jones, another Sheffield fighter, for the light-middle-weight title. with 98 home runs for the last two seasons, has signed a a fiveyear contract with a one-year option. The signing is a surprise

since it was believed the Florida Marlins had the best chance GHENT SIX-DAY RACE (Ghent, Bet) Leading positions after first day; 1 B Riss and K Betschaft (Sixt) 115(bits 2 A kapper and C Wolf (Ger) 76; 3 S Marunello and M Vita III) 73; 4 M Gamore Vals and J P Storm (Den) 64; 5 E De Wilder (Bot) and A Baid (20 62; 6 J Veggarby and J Madsen (Den) 71. to lure Belle away from the Cleveland Indians. The Marlins offered Belle a four-year contract, worth \$38m. The White Sox owner and

chairman, Jerry Reinsdorf, said: 'Money wasn't what it was all about, although this contract makes him the highest-paid player in baseball. He signed with us because he likes playing in Chicago and batting behind Frank Thomas." Belle said: "It was important

for me to stay in the American League. I like the way the organisation is emphasising a championship. Frank Thomas is a good friend of mine and I know he had some influence in getting me over here."

Cyprus have changed the date of their World Cup qualifier against Bulgaria to Saturday 14 December from Sunday 15 December, which would have clashed with Cypriot elections. TRANSFERS: Mark Robins (forward) Laces-ter Cay to PC Copenhagen (foon extended for further two weeks): Gelmmad Brendesse-tber (defender) SK Brann (Nor) to Abenteen Belle last week rejected the Indians' five-year offer, worth

SPORTING DIGEST FA CUP: Matches scheduled for Sky Sports fre coverage: Two 26 Nov: First-round re-pley: Millands v Wolwing (7.45). FM 6 Dec: Sec-nord round: Pyrmouth v Earter (7.45). Set 7 Dec: Second round: Cardif v Gillingtom (6.0). Hakeem Olajuwon, the Houston Rockets All Star centre, was taken to a hospital with an irregular heartbeat at half-time of the home game against the Minnesota Timberwolves on Tuesday. He had complained of "a little jumpiness in his chaet"

Rob Hill, Great Britain's leading spalscorer in the Barcelona Olympics, yester-day returned to strugging Havent and will play his first game against Old Loughtonians on Sunday week. He has been out of senior hockey for the past three years, playing for Yeovil and

ice hockey

EUROPEAN (EAGUE (Theodory): Manchester Storm O Luiga (Swe) 11. MHL: Otanua 1 New Jersey 2: Pittsburgh 4 St Louis 2: Tampa Bay 3 Los Angeles O; Toron-to 4 Buffalo 3; Washington 2 Boston 2 (cft; Edmonton 4 Chicago 4 (pt); Vancouver 2 Dales 0.

Motor racing

The 1994 champion, Gabriele Tarquini, is to return to the British Touring Car Championship next year at the wheel of a Honda Accord. The 34-year-old Tarquin, a veteran of 37 Grands Prix, has signed a two-year deal with Team Honda Sport to partner James Thompson. The Championship will feature 24 rounds at 12 meetings next year.

Real tennis

ROBAL TOPINIES

BRITISH LAND BRITISH OPEN (Queen's Clab, London) Slagde first round: N Pendigh bt A Lyons 3-6.5-6.5-3.6-1.6-1; J Howell bt H Latinam 6-3.4-8.4-6.1; P Brole bt M Howard 6-4.6-5.8-5; K Sheldon bt R Dery 6-0.6-2.6-0; B McTariane bt M Coghlum 6-4.6-2.6-1; J Male bt S Vingona 6-5.6-1.6-1; D Jones bt M Eadle 6-3.6-4-6-4: P Tabley bt R Jarva 6-2.8-1.6-1. Second round: R Gurm bt J Howell 6-4.6-5.2-6.6-5; F Fispelli bt P Brate 6-4.6-5.6-6-5; C Broy bt B McTariane 6-2.6-1.6-2; M Happell bt D Jones 6-1.1-6.8-3.6-3.

Ragby League The Super League side Oldham Bears have followed up their capture of the Australian centre Nathan Turner with the signing of the prop Brett Goldspirik from

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH (Descriptrook, Dublin): Lanster Under 21 29 New Zealand Un-der-21 3. TUESDAY'S LATE RESULT: Clinb match: Goucester 33 RAF 7.

Sailing

A late scramble in Rio de Jeneiro saw Boris Webber's Courtaulds in safe re-ceipt of a new pole and a repaired spin-naker in time for yesterday's start of the second leg of the BT Challenge to Wellington. The 14 yachts were led away in very light winds and misty rain by Chris Tibbs in Concert, followed by Richard Memweather in Commercial Union, Si-mon Wellier in Toshiba and current leader Mike Golding in Group 4.

Although two days behind schedule to

Although two days behind schedule to break the record of 109 days, the leading yachts in the Vendée Globe single-handed round the world race were yesterday making good time into the southern Atlantic, led by Yves Parlier, who is 79 miles ahead of Isabelle Autissier, with Christophe Augn another five miles astem. Didler Munduteguy is expected to return to Les Sables d'Ollette with reserve deals selbered. d'Clonne with severe deck problems. After suffering damage during the high winds in the North Sea at the beginwinds in the morth, Lawrie Smith's two development yachts for next year's Whitbread race were forced to run for gover in northern Spain yesterday white on their way to the writter training camp in Vilamoura, Portugal. EF Education went into Coruña, followed by Smith taken SEE Institutes for SEE analysis into Ribber. with asing EF Language into Bilbeo, with as-sistance from the Spanish Sea Rescue Association, as westerly winds reched ciation, as westerly winds reched

LIN CHAMPHONSHIP (Prestors) Second rounds.
A Robadour (Carri br S Lee (Engl 9-8; T Murphy (N ki) br M Price (Engl 9-8; N Bond (Engl
br J Seed (Engl 9-8; J Magner (Soo) br M Campbell (Sco) 9-5; B Sneddon (Sco) br R Lawler
(Engl 9-7; S Hendry (Sco) br R Millers (Engl
9-5; J Johnson (Engl br T Pichet (Thai) 9-6; P
Hunter (Engl br J Wattana (Thai) 9-5.

Sports books

Donald McRae's "Dark Trade: Lost in Boxing" was yesterday named William Hill Sports Book of the Year, McRae, a 35-year-old South African who once taught English in Soweto before mov-ing to London 12 years ago, won

£5,000. One of the judges, the broad-caster and author Frances Edmonds, said: "This book shows all the mage and misery of boxing, the drama and the dedication, and the inevitable despair of the modern-day gladiators."

Squash

NTE CARLO WOMEN'S OPEN First round: Asitin (Aus) of R Magree (Eng) 9-5 9-5 9-3;

> TODAY'S NUMBER

10

The number of years - as of today - that the Tiplon Terror" Steve Bull has completed at Molineux since Graham Turner "stole" him from West Bromwich Albion for £50,000 in Wolves' Fourth Division days.

ATP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Hanover) White Group: T Muster (Aut) bt M Chang (US) 6-4 6-3. Red group: P Sampras (US) bt A Ageas (US) 6-2 6-1.

CHASE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP (New York) Frist round: K Date (Japan) bt M Seles (US) 5-4 ret, 5 Grif (Ger) bt K Hebsudova (Slovel) 6-1 6-4.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Football 7.30 unless state

Basketbali BLIDWEISER LEAGUE: Leopards v Sheffleid Other sports

SNOOKER: UK Championship (Presion). BADMINTON: Scottish Open (Glasgow).

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Sport

Scots reject 'joke' venue

Football

Scotland yesterday rejected Estonia's idea of playing their World Cup rematch in Cyprus in February and dismissed their alternative suggestion of the former Soviet republic of Azerbaijan as a joke.

Jim Farry, the Scottish Foot-ball Association chief executive, believes a fair solution would be to play at a venue the equivalent distance to Tallinn about a two-hour flight and not make the supporters fly five-and-a half hours to Cyprus or even further to Azerbaijan.

"Somewhere around the equivalent would be a fair and equitable outcome," Farry said. "We need a temperate cli-

mate at that time of year to ensure that the match progresses. so southern Europe would appear to be a more favoured spot perhaps southern France, southern Italy, southern Spain or southern Portugal."

Asked about the Estonian offer of Azerbaijan as an alternative, Farry said "I thought it might have been the first of

Lennart Johansson, the Ucfa president, supported the Scots. Cyprus is too far away," he said. "But Azerbaijan is even further away and that's ridiculous. There must be places closer, places like Copenhagen or somewhere like that."

Steffen Iversen today. The Tottenham manager watched the 20-year-old Norwegian striker in action for Rosenborg against IFK Gothenburg in the Cham-pions' League last night.

complete the £2.3m signing of

Tottenham have offered £2.3m and no further bids will Savo to succeed and have nev-be accepted. Liverpool have er said anything against him." £2.3m and no further bids will

shown interest but did not make an offer," a Rosenborg

Blackburn Rovers hopes of

The Aston Villa manager, Brian Little, vesterday told his striker Savo Milosevic he must start producing the goods and warned: "Unless the response

erpool's Stan Collymore remains top of his list if Milosevic fails to deliver after rejecting a move to Perugia.

Milosevic refused to speak to reporters after undergoing an extra training session yesterday, but Little explained in no uncertain terms what is expected of him: "I have told Savo that he has to do the business, play well and score goals. He also has to have the right attitude oth-

"One of the reasons that we were prepared to let him go was because he was not in the right frame of mind. He is under pressure and will be under the spotlight more than ever from fans, his team-mates and the manager - and unless the respouse is right I will act.

"We will have to see how he responds to the challenge. He has Gerry Francis was hoping to to win everyone over. During the

okesman said.

poaching Roy Hodgson from Internazionale to become their new manager were finally ended yesterday when the English coach renewed his contract with the Milan club until 1999.

is right, I will act."

Little hinted he might still move for a new striker and Liv-

erwise questions will be asked.

next few weeks I will be looking at Savo carefully to see what I've got. I've always maintained that Savo and Dwight Yorke can be as good a combination as any. "I will look at things objectively and do what is right for the team and the club. I want



Pablo Bouza goes over for a try during Argentina's comprehensive 63-20 victory over London Counties at Twickenham yesterday Report, page 30; photograph, David Rogers/Allsi,

Davies aiming to be first \$1m woman

Laura Davies goes into the first LPGA Tour Championship at the Desert Inn course in Las Vegas today knowing that victory will make her the first player in LPGA history to win

more than \$1m in a season. The British golfer has al-ready broken the record for earnings in a single season by winning \$897,302 (£560,815) this year, comfortably beating

the £539,736 won by Beth Daniel in 1990. The first prize in the LPGA Tour Championship, which features the top 30 players in the money list, is \$150,000.

However, Davies is not alone in her pursuit of a place in the record books. Karrie Webb can also top the seven-figure mark having won £532,000. That figure more than triples the record for a rookie, £163,821, set by Helen Alfredsson in 1992.

is out of the running for that million-dollar feat, she can at least throw a spanner in the works of her two rivals by topping the US

The event is now a fitting end to what has already been a history-making year for the LPGA, which did not even have a Tour Championship when the season However, the LPGA's com-

missioner. Jim Ritts, was de-Ielen Alfredsson in 1992. termined to include the event. The LPGA is clearly enjoying Although Annika Sorenstam "The addition of a Tour the best period in its 46-year-his-

Championship to the LPGA Tour schedule has been a high priority in that we wanted to put a high-profile period to the end of the LPGA season," he

already been added for next year. With 17 existing events also raising their purses, total prize money next year will be almost £19m, a 19 per cent increase on this season.

high profile since Nancy Lopez was at her prime in the late When Lopez won nine tour-

record five in a row, she earned a total of £118,320. However she has earned more than that this year without winning an event. "I've seen the LPGA grow tremendously since I was a

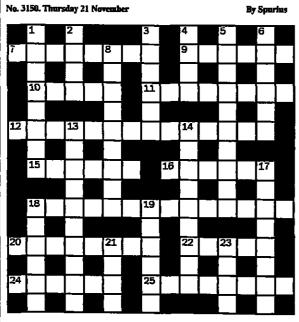
naments in 1978, including a

Cup in South Africa today even though the four-times winners. Fred Couples and Davis Love III, both miss the event. The Americans are represented by Tom Lehman, the Open champ ion, and Steve Jones, the US Open champion, in a tournarookie," Lopez said as she pre-pared for the Tour Champion-ship. "We're making a lot of game's leading players. ment which has been weakened by the absence of many of the

The United States start a

favourites for the men's Worl

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- 7 Breakfast food needing stir (8)
 9 John and Edward stole
- goods opportunistically (6) 10 Acknowledge producing commercial with German 11 Where some members of
- RUC may be depressed?
- 12 Good earnings for sales force in Oxford Street? (4.10)
- one month (6) 16 Rider's reason for holding line? (6)
- ance for landlord? (8, 6)
 20 Genteel law graduate runs into small difficulty initially
- 22 Ration books featured in
- senior policeman (6)

 Supplement to fare from
 Hong Kong, maybe? (3, 5)

 DOWN
- Lamps above and below a Rio słum, possibly (8) Prudish person rigid in morals initially? (4)
- Models posing, rarely seen
- French act displays a shortcoming (4) Nickname for squire, but used informally? Nothing in
- Recover silver which turns up during check (b)
 I'll have a sticky fruit with
- a stone in, please" (4, 5) Type of delivery which re-stricts 50% of shots? (4-6) 14 Speaking when one's alone

in the house? (9)

- most square (6) One without protective clothing in new industry geting cut twice (6)

17 Chic angle possibly acceptable to eastern church (8) Money order makes us al-

Gown having decoration with a bit of ruching on (4) 23 Jewel in ring father left (4)

V keeps Champions' League | Court rules

ITV has signed a a new threeyear deal with Uefa for exclusive British television rights to the Champions' League. The agreement completes a portfoio of football coverage which will cost ITV £45m per season and also includes the FA Cup and highlights of England's in-ternational games. ITV will not reveal how

much it has paid to Uefa to ex-

from the start of the Champions' League five years ago. However, with England represented in the competition by two teams from next season it will not have come cheaply.

Jeff Farmer, ITV's head of football, said: "It's a tremendous contract for us because the Champions' League delivers tremendous peak-time audiences, as high as 12 million.

"This is undeniably the best

club competition in the world and we are thrilled it has been retained on ITV and kept available for a terrestrial audience." Next season the English

champions will be automatically seeded through to the group stages, which have been enlarged to accommodate 24 clubs rather than the present 16. The English runners-up and the Scottish champions will join them if they win their ties in the qualifying round, which will be played over two legs. From the start of next season

ITV also has the FA Cup, which BBC. Under the agreement ITV will have an exclusive live game on Sundays from the third round onwards and live coverage of the final.

ITV also has regional cover age of the Coca-Cola Cup and

Riches for nostalgia merchants

big names to staff a Dream League, never mind a team, and the chequebook took a ham mering. Jack Walker would have been in his element.

Even Blackburn Rovers' benefactor, though, might have been stretched to snap up Billy Wright, Bobby Moore, the cream of Red Star Belgrade and Arsenal's famous championship-winning side of 1932.

Sadly, the legends were there in spirit only. Yet there they undeniably were; in the form of caps, jerseys, medals autographs and faded sepia prints, and there was no shortage of buyers desperate to land their star. Some £305,000 changed hands at Christie's Auction House in Glasgow yesterday as the game's carefully-tended and

much-loved memorabilia came under the hammer. Wright, just as he did during his playing career, led the way

Football's memorabilia went on sale in Glasgow yesterday. Phil Gordon reports

of 70, would probably have been a little embarrassed at the thought of everyone scrambling over his collection. A large chunk of his 105 caps. along with medals, opponents' jerseys and a marvellous silver gilt-edged trophy, presented on the occasion of his centenary England appearance, realised a sum of £116,759. The trophy it-

self was sold for £9,200. The private collector who bought much of Wright's legacy refused to speak about his purchase, or reveal his identity. Like a seasoned manager, he denied any interest in Wright or that he was the buyer. Sheer

speculation, presumably.
Two Wolves fans who grabbed their own little bit of the Wright stuff were more willing to talk about the deals

lad, who died in 1994 at the age they had done. Steve Butcher and Dave Dungar had both travelled up from the Black Country, with Dungar spend-ing more than £2,000 on one of Wright's England caps and a commemorative teapot given to the great man by another

legend, Russia's Lev Yashin. "We're season ticket holders at Molyneux," said Butcher, old gold scarf draped round his neck, "and we didn't want to see this going to a private collector. We'll probably give it to the club to put on display."
All sorts of ephemera at-

tracted all sorts of nudges and winks from the Christie's crowd. Caps belonging to the Scotland keeper Alan Pough, medals to Arsenal's Welsh favourite of the Fifties, Ray Daniel; Gary Birtles' European Cup medal,

triumph. The most evocative item was a programme from that fateful Red Star Beigrade-Manchester United game in 1958, signed by all 11 Yugoslav players, which fetched £1,450. Victoria Gibson, of Christie's.

said: "This is our eighth annual auction and it's been a recom total. Our houses in London do cricket sales but being Glasgow, this is where the bulk of our football clientele is. The Billy Wright collection

attracted massive interest and it looks like one of our best sales. Our best total before was £220,000 and it's a growing

This being Glasgow, parity had to be preserved. A batch of old Rangers programmes, including one from a historic friendly with Moscow Dynamo in 1945, fetched £450. However, Celtic came up with a late equaliser, managing the same sum for some of their 1960's Eu-

on fatal collision

Sailing

STUART ALEXANDER

In a decision which will be stu ied closely by the United Kinart dom yacht racing authoritie three suspended prison sea tences have been handed dow by a French court following to death in St Tropez last year of crew member drowned as a sult of the collision involving t

yachts while racing. But the organisers of event, La Nioulargue, were o charged, although the pub prosecutor had originally cal for a fine of £2,500.

The hearing, to investigathe death of Jacques Bourry? the six-metre Taos Brett IV, ter it collided with the schoo Mariette, had been timed to

incide with the 1996 event The court eventually fine's Thomas Perkins, the ownear and Thomas Eaton, skippe joth the Mariette, £6,000 each in title dition to the suspended ided sentence and imposed a similare penalty on Claude Graf, over er and skipper of Taos Brett

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